MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 OCTOBER 1981

Egypt

Security Situation -- AFP reported on 17 October that the Nile Delta town of Al-Mansurah was under tight security control following an exchange of gunfire between Muslim fundamentalists and security guards in a nearby village. However, MENA reported that Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il denied that disturbances had occurred, attributing them to unrelated shooting by security guards in nearby wheatfields. Isma'il also mentioned that the authorities have recently discovered arms caches and arrested a number of people but are still hunting for some fugitives and troublemakers. A later MENA report cited an Interior Ministry statement that indicated the arrest of about 230 members of a "terrorist religious organization" over the past few days. The statement said that arms and explosives were seized and that captured documents and other evidence revealed the group's plans for assassinations and attacks on utilities and police installations. A related AFP report said that one of the 230 arrested was the organization's leader, 'Abbud az-Zammur, who, according to "informed sources," might have been involved in the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat. Citing MAY, another AFP report said that the 230 persons arrested might be implicated in the killing of As-Sadat.

The 17 October edition of the Paris-based magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL reported that the authorities arrested 89 National Progressive Unionist Grouping supporters during the weekend following President as-Sadat's assassination. Cairo radio broadcast on 16 October a request to the public by the Interior Ministry for information leading to the arrest of four wanted men. The list included the names of two men whom MENA had earlier reported to have been arrested. Cairo radio also broadcast an Interior Ministry order banning unauthorized weapons training.

In a statement appearing in the 19 October issue of MAY, Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said that a survey has been conducted to identify those in the armed forces holding extremist religious views and that 30 officers and 104 NCO's and soldiers so identified have been dismissed and transferred to civilian jobs. He added that none of these persons were found to have been connected with the assassination of President as-Sadat.

Ash-Shadhili, Muhyi ad-Din Interviews -- In interviews with AL-MUSTAQBAL, Egyptian National Front Secretary General Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din Ash-Shadhili and Grouping Party leader Khalid Muhyi ad-Din both stressed their desire to replace the current regime with a democratic system. Ash-Shadhili reiterated his demand that the people decide Egypt's policy toward the Camp David accords in "a free and unfaked referendum," while ad-Din said that although he denounced the assassination of As-Sadat, the late president's violent measures against the opposition led to his death.

Mubarak, Ghali on Peace Process -- According to Jerusalem radio, President Husni Mubarak has said in a message to Israeli Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres that Egypt will continue negotiations with Israel until peace prevails throughout the region. The radio also reported Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali as saying in an interview with Beirut's MONDAY MORNING that Egypt will continue in the Camp David peace process as long as there is no other option acceptable to all the parties involved.

'Ali on Defense of Sudan -- In comments made after his meeting with U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Alfred Atherton and reported by Cairo radio and AFP, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt is committed to the defense of Sudan and that any aggression against it will be considered an attack on Egypt.

Libya

Az-Zuwayy on Egypt, Sudan -- KUNA, citing the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN, reported Libyan Justice Secretary Muhammad Abu al-Qasim az-Zuwayy as saying that his country does not want to go to war with Egypt and Sudan. He said that the source of tension with Sudan is its support for the Chadian rebels led by former Chadian Defense Minister Hissein Habre. Az-Zuwayy affirmed that the Libyan people's congresses have decided to prevent any confrontation between the Libyan and Egyptian armies, adding that the only condition for reconciliation with Egypt is that it abandon the Camp David accords.

Support From PFLP -- Tripoli radio reported on 19 October that Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has received a message from PFLP Secretary General George Habash in which he expresses his organization's willingness to help defend Libya against any aggressors and denounces "imperialist-Zionist" plots against Libya and al-Qadhdhafi.

Military Cooperation With SFRY -- JANA reported on 17 October that Armed Forces Commander Brig Abu Bakr Yunis met with Yugoslav defense officials and visited armament factories during his visit to the SFRY. Earlier, Tripoli's Voice of Arab Homeland radio said the Libyan-Yugoslav joint committee for military cooperation signed an agreement providing for greater military cooperation between the two countries.

Saudi Peace Plan

The Saudi paper 'UKAZ, reviewed by SPA on 17 October, called for a unified Arab declaration of support for Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's Middle East peace plan. Although SPA reported that in an interview with AR-RIYAD, PLO Executive Committee member Talal Naji reaffirmed PLO support for the Saudi initiative, Monte Carlo radio broadcast an interview with Naji in Damascus in which he expressed reservations about the plan, asserting that the PLO Executive Committee has condemned the article in the plan that implies recognition of Israel and that the committee was also surprised at the nonmention of the PLO in the proposals. According to SPA, Naji also revealed that the PLO will issue an official statement on the Fahd proposals after PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's forthcoming visit to Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile, AFP reported a "storm of criticism" over 'Arafat's support for the plan among Palestinian circles in Beirut and also said the Syrian Ba'th Party has rejected Prince Fahd's proposals. Jerusalem radio's Arabic service reported that former Syrian Prime Minister Muhammad Haydar told the Beirut paper AS-SAFIR that the Ba'th Party leadership has rejected the Saudi plan; it also reported that the PFLP and the Syrian-backed As-Sa'iqa rejected the plan. However, monitored Syrian media have not been heard to comment on the Saudi proposals.

Citing an official Omani statement to AL-JAZIRAH, GULF NEWS AGENCY reported that Oman reaffirmed its support for the Saudi peace plan.

Jerusalem radio's Arabic service commented that if Saudi Arabia wants to embark on a "positive step" on the issue of peace in the Middle East, it should join with Israel and Egypt "under the shade of the Camp David umbrella."

PLO

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that PLO Executive Chairman 'Arafat would begin an official visit to the Soviet Union on 18 October. 'Arafat will meet with President Leonid Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders, the radio said. The radio later added that a planned request by the PLO for full diplomatic recognition of its mission in Moscow will receive a positive response.

Lebanese Conflict

According to SANA, Syrian Defense Minister Gen Mustafa Talas stated in a 17 October TISHRIN interview that Syrian forces will stay in Lebanon until it is rid of its enemies, adding that Syrian missiles will also remain there until Israeli aggression ends.

Israel

Begin Reaction to Reagan Remarks -- Jerusalem radio reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin was "astonished" at President Ronald Reagan's assertion that during Begin's trip to Washington the Israeli leader told Reagan he was not disturbed by the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia. In a statement broadcast by the radio, Begin stressed that he was and still is "very much disturbed" by the AWACS deal.

Death of Dayan -- Jerusalem radio reported that Knesset member Moshe Dayan died while hospitalized on 16 October. The radio provided live coverage of his funeral 2 days later. Cairo radio noted that an Egyptian delegation led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali attended the funeral and MENA carried the text of a message of condolences to Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon from President Mubarak.

Denial on Flights Over Saudi Arabia -- Jerusalem radio noted on 16 October that a Defense Ministry spokesman denied an INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE report that recently Israeli planes have repeatedly penetrated Saudi airspace near Tabuk airbase. The spokesman said Israeli Air Force aircraft have not flown over Tabuk for more than 2 years.

Iran

Prime Ministerial Nomination -- PARS reported that at the 19 October Majlis session a letter from President 'Ali Khamene'i was read nominating Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati as prime minister. According to AFP, Velayati is an Islamic Republican Party member and a Majlis deputy.

Guardians Overruled on Reforms -- Commenting on an 11 October letter from Ayatollah Khomeyni to Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani authorizing the Majlis to temporarily implement legislation rejected by the Council of Guardians, Tehran radio said the ruling will allow the Majlis to uproot feudalism and prevent the polarization of wealth in Iran. It said the bills that can now be implemented concern land reform, urban property and land belonging to the government. The radio also carried a statement by prominent theologians throughout the country supporting Khomeyni's application of theocratic rule.

Security Situation -- Citing ETTELA'AT, Tehran radio reported on 18 October that 27 dissidents were executed in five towns. The radio also noted the arrest of 28 Mojahedin and allied dissidents in Gachsaran and the surrender elsewhere of 7 other Mojahedin. PARS reported on the same day that terrorists attempted to assassinate Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's representative in Rasht but shot his bodyguard instead and that dissidents in Shiraz set a bus on fire, killing a child and injuring 20 other passengers. Meanwhile, Tehran radio reported further successes by revolution guards in operations against Kurdish rebels near Bukan and Kamyaran and in Mahabad.

Saudi-Iranian Relations -- Tehran radio reported further clashes between Iranian pilgrims and the Saudi authorities in Medina early on 17 October. The radio said that after Iranian pilgrims in the Prophet's shrine protested an assault on one of their number, security officials forced them out of the shrine and the Prophet's mosque "in a disgusting manner," injuring and arresting a number of Iranians.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Khamene'i Interview -- In a Tehran radio interview following a 16 October Supreme Defense Council meeting, Iranian President Khamene'i said that if Iraqi forces withdraw unconditionally from Iran, "then we might hold talks." The topics of such talks, he added, would be the identification and trial of the aggressor, the issue of reparations and negotiations on the 1975 Algiers agreement. Khamene'i said Iran doubts the sincerity of Iraq's reported acceptance of Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti's proposal for the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iran. Noting that the Defense Council discussed the situation at the front as well as Chatti's proposals, Khamene'i said exchanges of fire had been continuing as usual, adding that no new or important development on the fronts had arisen.

Military Situation -- According to an Iraqi Armed Forces communique carried by INA, Iraqi forces attacked and captured Iranian positions in the Shush area early on 16 October, killing 154 Iranians and destroying 7 tanks. INA later cited an Iraqi military source as saying that Iraqi forces took control of Iranian positions on the Kharkheh Kur River in the attack and captured three tanks. Another Iraqi communique carried by INA on 17 October reported that Iraqi planes attacked Iranian positions in the southern sector, scoring direct hits. An Iranian Armed Forces communique broadcast by Tehran radio on the same day said three Iraqi attacks in the western sector on 16 October were defeated. PARS reported a revolution guards communique claiming the Shandari military base inside Iraq was damaged. Citing the MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY, AFP confirmed reports that Iran's oil pumping station feeding Khark Island was knocked out of action by an Iraqi air raid in September.

Afghanistan

GULF NEWS AGENCY reported the announcement in New York on 16 October by Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi that Afghanistan has agreed to the Pakistani proposal for tripartite talks on the Afghan situation involving Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan under the supervision of the UN secretary general. He noted, however, that Iran has refused to participate in the talks unless representatives from the Afghan opposition are allowed to participate.

Pakistan

AFP cited the Karachi daily JANG as reporting that Al-Zulfiqar opposition group leader Murtuza Bhutto, elder son of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, was wounded in Kabul when his car was caught in a machinegun ambush set by unidentified persons on 13 October.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VOP REPORTS ON 'ARAFAT'S UPCOMING MOSCOW VISIT

Return From Asia

NC171512 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1445 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat is to leave on an official visit to Moscow tomorrow morning. 'Arafat arrived in Beirut early this morning following his tour of China, Korea, Japan and Vietnam.

On arrival, Chairman 'Arafat and the delegation which accompanied him on his tour visited the grave of Palestinian Majid Abu Sharar in the martyr's cemetery. He then went to offer condolences to the martyr's family.

Due in Moscow 18 Oct

JN171549 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1505 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] begins an official visit to the Soviet Union tomorrow at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Government. Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, has said that Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev will receive Brother Abu 'Ammar during his visit to the Soviet Union. He added that the PLO's office in Moscow might be accorded diplomatic status on the occasion of this visit.

A high-level delegation, comprising members of the PLO Executive Committee and of the Palestinian leadership, will accompany Brother Abu 'Ammar.

A Palestinian delegation arrived in Moscow yesterday consisting of 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee official spokesman, and Staff Brigadier General Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil], Fatah Central Committee member and a member of Al-'Asifah forces general command.

Abu Mayzar on Moscow Visit

JN161855 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Oct 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Excerpt] PLO official spokesman Brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has made the following statement about Brother Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] imminent visit to Moscow: Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Moscow is of special and distinguished significance in view of the strong friendly relations between the PLO and the friendly Soviet Union which constitutes a central and basic force supporting peoples struggling for their freedom and national independence as well as for the consolidation of peace based on justice.

Brother Abu Mayzar added: The visit is also of particular significance in that it is the first visit to the Soviet Union by an Arab leader since the assassination of As-Sadat. This will enable the achievement of a joint evaluation of the situation in the area in the light of this incident.

Brother Abu Mayzar pointed to the importance of the visit with regard to developing and deepening Palestinian-Soviet relations and to the positive effects it will have on the entire Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Station Views USSR Visit

JN181608 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1508 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Brother, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, today begins an official visit to the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government. The brother commander in chief is accompanied on this visit by a high-level Palestinian delegation including several members of the PLO Executive Committee and the Palestinian leadership. Brother Abu 'Ammar will meet in Moscow with Chairman Leonid Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders.

Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] head of the PLO Political Department, said that diplomatic status might be granted to the PLO office during Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to the USSR.

In the meantime, a Palestinian delegation including Brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, the official PLO spokesman; and Brother Staff Brig Gen Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil] member of the Fatah Central Committee, has held preparatory meetings with Soviet leaders during which they drafted the agenda of Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit on the political and military levels.

Observers believe that Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to the USSR is of great importance, especially since it comes in the wake of the declaration of the strategic cooperation agreement between the United States and the Zionist enemy. It also comes in the wake of As-Sadat's assassination and the developments in the Egyptian arena.

The observers expect the visit to produce tangible political and military results and to have profound positive effects on strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries. [as heard]

Further Station Commentary

JN181800 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1604 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Station Commentary]

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] today begins his official visit to the USSR at the head of a high-level political and military delegation, including several members of the PLO Executive Committee. Brother Abu 'Ammar is scheduled to meet with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and other senior party and government officials.

The brother commander in chief's visit acquires special importance in view of the fact that it is taking place in very critical Arab and international circumstances. Recently, a strategic cooperation agreement was signed between Israel and Washington. Recently direct U.S. presence expanded in our Arab region, using Egypt as bridgehead for spreading and threatening other countries.

In view of this situation, it has become essential to contact our Soviet friends and to work hard toward raising the level of the existing relationship between the Arabs and the friendly USSR to highest level possible in line with the joint tasks awaiting us and our friends in confronting the U.S. aggression and attempts at directly or indirectly controlling our region.

With regard to the Palestine question in particular, the visit of Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar is taking place in the wake of very important developments related to our question and national struggles. Foremost of these developments was the sixth war in which the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist forces made a significant political and military achievement, which firmly established the PLO on the political map and clearly showed the importance of the Palestinian-Lebanese front in the series of confrontations and to Arab steadfastness.

The main tasks of this front are to deter Zionist aggression and to build an integral Arab front against the Zionist and imperialist enemy on the most important confrontation arena.

Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit also takes place after the last Palestine National Council session, which was rightly the session of Palestinian national unity. That session welcomed President Brezhnev's initiative on the Middle East, the initiative which embodies the USSR's stand and commitment toward the Palestine question and the PLO in particular.

If we also view Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit in light of the future, we see that it is taking place when there are very clear indications of continued Israeli aggression against the Palestinian revolution in the south. This means that we are indeed on the threshold of a major military battle resulting from the sharp political battle we are experiencing in which we are facing the United States and its lackeys in this part of the world.

The Palestinian and Arab people view Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to the friendly USSR with interest and optimism not only out of our conviction that the Soviet friends will never abandon our question, people and rights, but also out of our deep and clear understanding of the USSR's position in our contemporary world and its significant role in backing peoples fighting for their freedom, self-determination and national independence. Foremost among these peoples are our Palestinian Arab people and their just cause.

PLO To Request Recognition, Aid

JN181854 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Excerpt] In a comment on Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit, which will begin in the next few hours, AFP says: Beirut political circles point out that this if the first visit by a high-level Arab figure to Moscow since As-Sadat's assassination and the declaration of the strategic agreement between the United States and Israel.

The agency adds: These circles believe that in view of the new Arab and international circumstances, this visit will give the Palestinian and Soviet sides an opportunity to make a general appraisal of the Middle East situation and its developments in light of the international atmosphere and the increasing number of the hotbeds of tension in the world.

In this respect, it has been learned from a Palestinian source that Yasir 'Arafat is scheduled to hold talks with Leonid Brezhnev, president of the USSR and leader of the CPSU. 'Arafat is accompanied by a delegation that includes five members of the PLO Executive Committee and four high-ranking officers. The Palestinian delegation will hold talks with the officials in the Foreign and Defense Ministries.

On the political level, the PLO will request that the USSR grant full diplomatic status to its mission in Moscow. It has been learned from a Palestinian source that the Soviets are willing to respond to this request, especially since the stalemate in the Camp David accords and the death of President as-Sadat have once again projected the PLO into the international field.

On the military level, the Palestinian officers will request military aid, especially the latest surface-to-air missiles from the Kremlin generals, because the Palestinian resistance is suffering a great deal from lack of an air umbrella in facing the Israeli Air Force, which is one of the most modern and effective air forces in the world.

PLO Paper Urges Soviet Support

JN182040 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1750 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Under the headline "Battle To Contain Egypt," FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH, the central paper of the PLO, publishes the following editorial: The As-Sadat administration, and before that the 'Abd an-Nasir administration, proved that Egypt's subservience or independence are reflected in the Arab region. Nasirite Egypt fought the battle of national independence and triumphed and also fought the battle of imperialist pacts and triumphed. Nasirism's battles to unify the Arabs were essentially battles against the imperialist policy of dividing the Arab homeland among the imperialist powers on the basis of imperialist plunder. If the 'Abd an-Nasir administration in Egypt was marked by a recession in imperialist control over Arab territory and many parts of Africa, thanks to the solid will represented by 'Abd an-Nasir's leadership, the As-Sadat regime, which inherited a regime exhausted by enormous imperialist challenges, was a negative expression of Egypt's will, interests and historical role.

If national history or struggle has killed As-Sadat, Washington is now pushing ahead at full strength to tighten its hold on Egypt and Sudan on the pretext that Libya is threatening Egypt. The arrival of the U.S. AWACS aircraft in Egypt, in the manner they did, is not for the purpose of strengthening Egypt against the Libyan danger, as the Americans claim, but is part of the U.S. strategy against the so-called Soviet threat.

As-Sadat, who emptied Egypt of the forces which defend national independence, has handed over authority to forces loyal to Washington. These forces responded fully to an alliance with Washington. The decision came this time from Washington not Cairo. This means that Egypt has now completely fallen into U.S. hands. Therefore, the Arab region is now facing a direct threat, and, as a result of their control on Egypt, Washington and Israel will now proceed to strike at Arab forces that reject or oppose involvement in the U.S. plan. At the head of these forces stands the Palestinian revolution, which is facing a ferocious alliance to rid its existence in Lebanon.

The murder of the beloved Palestinian leader Majid Abu Sharar was only a new indication of what awaits the Palestinian revolution and the PLO. The murder in Rome of a well-known Palestinian leader taking part in a public symposium approved by the Italian authorities would not have taken place without the knowledge of Italian intelligence and a green light from U.S. intelligence. The official Italian stand, which is shrouded by silence vis-a-vis this crime, discloses U.S. pressure on Italy to hide the traces of this crime from public opinion. We would like to point out here that the Rome murder of the Palestinian leader and thinker Majid Abu Sharar took place as a result of the U.S. decision against the PLO. This fact must be considered when deciding the required Palestinian response to this crime.

Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to the USSR for official meetings at the highest level with USSR leaders, is taking place when the U.S. danger is threatening both the Arab nation and the USSR. Undoubtedly the USSR, which has been following the sweeping U.S. march on Egypt and the entire region, has made it clear on several occasions that its security is threatened by these U.S. alliances. Therefore, the USSR is standing on the side of the Arab forces, which are confronting and fighting this U.S. domination.

On the level of the Palestinian revolution, this revolution has remained steadfast all these years against a fierce and devastating war of annihilation. It has become essential and urgent now to strengthen Palestinian-Soviet friendship through the supply of Soviet weapons to the Palestinian revolution so that we can protect our masses from the U.S. F-15 and F-16 aircraft. Without these weapons, Israel will continue to hold the initiative, prevent national accord in Lebanon, continue to savagely Judaize Palestine and flout all UN resolutions. We in the Palestinian revolution look for comprehensive Soviet support to enable us to resist the Israeli danger which is going deep into Lebanon and Palestine.

OMAN

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS PRINCE FAHD'S PEACE PLAN

GF181246 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0835 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Oct (GNA) -- 'Abdallah Sakhr al-'Umari, an official Omani Government spokesman, has reaffirmed Oman's support for the peace plan proposed by Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister. He said: "Oman regards this plan as a suitable basis for peace in the Middle East."

In a statement to the Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH published today, the Omani spokesman said that Oman supports all initiatives that will ultimately enable the Palestinians to achieve their legitimate rights. Al-'Umari called for uniting Arab ranks and said he hopes the upcoming Arab summit in Rabat will benefit Arab nations.

Al-'Umari denied news agency reports on the formation of an organization to set up a consultative council in Oman. He added: "Sultan Qabus already mentioned this in a speech on Oman's 10th anniversary, although nothing has been issued yet." He stressed that Omani citizens and officials consult on all current domestic and international issues.

OFFICIAL SAYS USSR THREATENS GULF REGION

LD190854 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0728 GMT 19 Oct 81

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Oct (KUNA) -- Omani Foreign Minister Under Secretary Yusuf al-'Alawi has said that in his country's opinion, the main threat to the strategic Arab Gulf region comes from the USSR.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, published here today, Al-'Alawi said the Soviet threat could be direct, or indirect through Soviet allies in the region -- the PDRY and Ethiopia.

The United States and other Western countries would reduce their presence in the region once the region's countries succeed in building up "their own defense force which could at least check the PDRY, Ethiopia and those countries that support them," he said.

He called on the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] to create a third force capable of protecting the region, in order to keep it out of the U.S.-USSR conflict. "What concerns Oman in the first place," he said, "is to develop and strengthen our own capabilities and to be in a position to prevent any threat or danger from the outside. This is a principle on which our brothers in the other GCC member countries agree." These countries are Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain and the UAE.

Al-'Alawi said Oman believes that "the principal and realistic threat to the region is that of the USSR, either directly or indirectly through the countries under Soviet influence." However, he expressed the belief that the region's countries will not be able to eliminate the "Soviet threat and presence in the region, and consequently the conflict will change from a conflict between the USSR and the United States to one between GCC members and those countries supported by the USSR. The Soviet threat, he said, is there and the USSR presence will not be removed whether the West withdraws its presence or not and whether the Gulf countries increase their defense capabilities and rely on themselves for defending the region.

Al-'Alawi blamed the PDRY for the stalemate in the mediation efforts undertaken by Kuwait and the UAE on behalf of the GCC to repair the rift in relations between Oman and the PDRY. He added that Aden has no desire for the establishment of any form of coexistence between itself and its neighbors. He cited in this regard the treaty of friendship signed between the PDRY, Libya and Ethiopia last August which, he said, "aimed at creating problems and troubles in the Gulf countries."

SAUDI ARABIA

NEWSPAPERS ON SOLVING MIDEAST CRISIS, AWACS DEAL

GF171251 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 08[illegible] GMT 17 Oct 81

[Excerpts] R'yadh, 17 Oct (GNA) -- The Saudi newspaper 'UKAZ has called for an Arab agreement on the Saudi proposals for a Middle East peace in order to thwart all attempts by the enemy to tamper with and obstruct every sincere Arab effort to achieve the desired peaceful solution.

The newspaper AR-RIYAD calls on the United States to carry out a positive role regarding the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian question and urges it not to have an imbalanced or biased view. The paper says that following the declaration of the alliance between the Israeli enemy and the United States and the continuation of Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon, it is clear that Zionism knows no law other than the law of force.

With regard to the sale of AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia, AL-YAWM stressed that Saudi Arabia adheres to its conditions for the purchase of htese planes, namely that these planes should be Saudi Arabia's own means of security regardless of the outcome of the U.S. Senate vote on the deal. AL-YAWM says that Saudi Arabia will not yield in this stand as long as it is able to buy what it wants and as long as offers by friends meet Riyadh's needs to defend the Muslim holy places.

In its editorial today, the newspaper AL-MADINAH discusses the AWACS planes, saying: "If the U.S. Government succeeds in winning Senate support for the sale of these planes to Saudi Arabia, then it will have fulfilled its commitments and pledges to Saudi Arabia and strengthened its friendship with Saudi Arabia. It will also have gained Arab friendship in confronting the Zionist threat in the region."

AL-MADINAH says that if the U.S. Government fails to persuade the Senate of the importance of Arab friendship with the United States and its interests in the region and the deal is obstructed, it will mean that the confidence of the friends of the United States -- who deal with it on the basis of mutual interests -- in U.S. foreign policy will be shaken.

Further Press Commentary

LD171554 Riyadh SPA in English 1220 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Oct (SPA) -- The world wide attention given the Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan for the settlement of the Middle East issue and the regrettable controversy raised in the United States regarding the AWACS radar planes deal appeared in editorial comments in today's national newspapers. Dealing with Prince Fahd's peace formula, 'UKAZ newspaper called for a unified Arab declaration of support for the Kingdom's peace plan because of its flexibility, validity and clear understanding of the Middle East issue.

The paper felt Prince Fahd's blueprint for Middle East [words indistinct] successfully blocked the campaigns of Israel to foil the sincere efforts of the Arabs to reach a peaceful settlement of the issue.

The paper pointed out no success for the Middle East issue could be achieved unless the Arabs are ready to sink their differences and abandon their policies of alliances and treaties with the super powers.

Dealing with the same subject, AR-RIYAD newspaper urged the Reagan administration to initiate a positive and unbaised role toward the Middle East issue and the Palestinian cause. It is deplorable to note that Israel has been recognising only the law of force and not been abiding to international laws or norms, the paper said.

Meanwhile, AL-MADINAH newspaper regretted the controversy hue and cry raised on the Reagan administration willingness to approve the sale of AWACS radar planes to Saudi Arabia, disregarding the national security interests of the Kingdom and the U.S. larger interests in the region. The paper said, if the U.S. Administration gain success in the Congress for the final approval of the (?deal) the U.S. will greatly solidify its friendship with the Kingdom on one hand and the whole Arab world on the other. If by chance, the U.S. fails to approval the deal, the foreign policy of the U.S. Administration will be shaken and its interests in the region will be affected.

Deploring the controversy on the AWACS radar planes sale to the Kingdom, AL-YAWM said the Kingdom has already declared its pledge that it will use the planes only to ensure the security of its territories. Although the Kingdom has clearly stated its intentions and its need for the planes, the paper regretted unreasonable doubts and controversy underway regarding the deal in Washington.

"If U.S. fail to supply the AWACS radar planes, the Kingdom's other friends are ready to supply its requirements for meeting its defence needs." the paper added.

British Would Supply Planes

GF161613 Doha QNA in Arabic 1358 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Oct (QNA) -- In a dispatch from London, the Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH reports today that Great Britain is still willing to supply Saudi Arabia with an airborne warning and control system if the U.S. Senate turns down the proposed AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia. Citing British officials, AL-JAZIRAH says that Great Britain will show great interest in any request by Saudi Arabia to obtain the Nimrod planes, which are as good as the AWACS.

PRESS COMMENTS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN EGYPT 15 OCT

GF161818 [Editorial Report] Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic published on 15 October cites news agency reports on the situation in Egypt. On its front page, the paper quotes a 100-word SPA report refuting press reports that Saudi Arabia has sent a condolences cable to Egyptian leaders on As-Sadat's assassination.

On pages 1 and 14, the paper carries a 3,800-word report on the results of Egypt's referendum in which Husni Mubarak was elected president, and includes a biography of Husni Mubarak. However, commentary is not provided on Egypt's situation.

On page 14 a London TIMES report is cited on the activities of As-Sadat's wife following her husband's death, and her political influence is analyzed.

An editorial on page 3 comments on the "very decisive stage we are currently facing." "Husni Mubarak's coming to power is a turning point in the history of Egypt and the whole region," the paper says, adding "Arabs who are optimistic that there will be a change in Egyptian policy that will bring it into the Arab ranks are relying on Egypt's rich past. In the same way that As-Sadat was able to bury Nasirist Egypt, the new president is equally capable of adopting a new line that might restore Egypt's role among its sisters."

PDRY

PFLO RADIO CONDEMNS OMANI SULTAN'S POLICIES

EA181622 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Our people who are standing firm against British colonialism and American forces and their servile puppet, Qabus, good evening.

Brothers: news agencies have been reporting the scandals of the Muscat agent regime. The world press and media also report that the puppet regime has fallen into the lap of its American masters. There was the recent scandal of the murder of Khalfan ibn Nasir, commander of the Muscat contingent. Then there was the scandal of Muscat regime's participation in marching behind the Israeli prime minister, the enemy of the Arabs and of all Muslims. The Muscat agent regime's representative walked together with his brother Begin at the funeral of their brother, Muhammad Anwar, the oppressor of Egypt. but Cairo, as usual, refused to be oppressed and suppressed him [As-Sadat] for his deeds.

The reports go on to say that the sultan's forces, his majesty's forces, will take part in the military exercises to be carried out by the U.S. forces in Egypt in the coming weeks. We wonder what it is that this puppet regime wants to tell us? Is it that Oman and its inhabitants constitute a private fief of Qabus, or does Qabus want to say: I challenge you and I shall do what I like? Or does he want to tell us that he is a humble slave who cannot but do his American masters' bidding, because he is at their beck and call? Does he want to tell us that the Omani Army is simply a unit of the U.S. Army? Does he want to tell us that Oman is the 51st state of the United States? Or perhaps he has already offered the whole of Oman as a modest wedding present to one of Reagan's relatives. His father before him gave away the Khuriya Muriya Islands, the Hallaniya, as a modest present to Queen Victoria on the occasion of her wedding. But in truth we do not know what he wants to tell us.

Brothers: Do not forget that His Little Majesty Qabus' uncle is Shihab ibn Taymur. You know what we mean by his Uncle Shihab. There is no need for us to elaborate on that. What we do say, however, is that the malady that afflicted Shihab is now afflicting his little majesty. We wish him with all our heart recovery from this malignant ailment. But how will he be cured when his little majesty goes no further than his yacht for treatment?

All that notwithstanding, his majesty's forces are to take part in the American exercises and he will certainly fall more deeply into the laps of his masters and his American and British benefactors. His majesty tells you: Omanis, go and bang your heads against the wall. God bless ('Azzan al-Qutayyif) who drew out a flaming fire-brand from the quagmire of this corrupt puppet dynasty. [sentence as heard]

Our people who are standing firm against the swindlers and puppets know that the Muscat puppet regime is not above committing further acts of betrayal against our homeland. It will not be deterred unless we oppose it to a man, because agentry and treachery are ingrained in its nature, so naturally it cannot be [word indistinct] in Britain and the United States and their companies.

[Words indistinct] You and we have learned a great deal; the Muscat rulers cannot be reformed. The best method of curing this disease is to extirpate them once and for all. Unite, unite our people against the conspirators and colonialists. Forward to save the homeland and rescue our national dignity.

'ALI SAYS NATION COMMITTED TO SUDAN'S DEFENSE

NC181624 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said that the Arab Republic of Egypt is committed to the joint Arab defense agreement and that any aggression on Sudan will be considered an attack on it and that it will repulse the aggression on Sudan. His excellency affirmed that Egypt does not need any foreign soldiers to defend it and that all its needs are weapons.

SUDAN'S VICE PRESIDENT REVEALS AWACS RESULTS

NC182220 Cairo MENA in English 2208 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- MAY newspaper, organ of the ruling National Democratic Party, said in its edition due to be issued here tomorrow that the two AWACS planes have reconnaissed the border area between the Sudan and Libya and informed that tranquility prevails there, though there are Libyan masses in the region. Sudanese Vice President Major General 'Umar at-Tayyib, who is in charge of security body, said.

At-Tayyib voiced belief that the Libyans would reassess their plans after it had been unrealed by the Sudanese.

On the other hand, President Ja'far Numayri of the Sudan warned those who smuggle food stuffs to Chad and Libya against the illegal gains, adding that they would be brought before court for these substances they smuggle to feeding the Libyan Army and create a food crisis in the Sudan.

MENA REPORTS LIBYAN FORCES' ACTIVITIES IN CHAD

NC181630 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1405 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- Reports from Chad indicate that the Libyan occupation forces there have started a concentrated shelling of the townships of (Ibshi), (Umm Hajar), (Biltin) and (Atiya) in an attempt to destroy all life there after failing to destroy the inhabitants' spirit of resistance despite the wide-scale detention campaign aimed at enabling the Libyan forces to spread their influence over these areas.

Meanwhile, the Libyan occupation forces have been trying to convince the Chadians of the contents of Al-Qadhdhafi's Green Book and have also been daubing green on buildings in some villages. Furthermore, they have been distributing green clothes to Chadian villagers and when the villagers refuse to comply they are confronted by a terrorization vehicle [as received] of occupation forces and the government forces allied with them are facing strong resistance from the Chadian people.

Reports indicate that fierce clashes have taken place between the alliance members, [as received] the latest being when fierce fighting took place this week between forces of [Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation] Ahmat Acyl and forces of Minister of State for Interior and Security Mahamat Abba Said in the (Bamango) region causing heavy losses in the ranks of both sides.

AFP: FUNDAMENTALIST DISTURBANCES IN AL-MANSURAH

NC171829 Paris AFP in English 1819 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Oct (AFP) -- The Nile delta city of Al-Mansurah was under tight security today, as local authorities expressed fears of an attack by Moslem fundamentalists.

Although Egyptian Interior Minister Nabawi Isma'il denied what he described as "rumors" of heightened tension in the Nile delta city, newsmen in the area, 100 km (60 miles) north of Cairo, reported that armed police and soldiers were carrying out strict security checks on all vehicles entering the town.

The town appeared calm, but two armored troop transport vehicles were parked outside the Al-Mansurah police headquarters in the city center, with machinegun-toting anti-riot brigade commandos standing by and soldiers posted behind sandbags and on the roof.

Near the Nile River, police and Mukhbarat (secret police) officers barred entry to another police station, with streets in the vicinity barred by metal barriers and concrete blocks to prevent access. The security measures at Al-Mansurah followed reported exchanges of gunfire at dawn today in a nearby village.

Mr Isma'il, who also serves as deputy prime minister was quoted by the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY, MENA, as attributing the shooting to guards who fired into the air over a wheat field to frighten away thieves. But according to reports at Al-Mansurah, a commando of Moslem fundamentalists drove through the nearby village of Sandub, three km (two miles) away, shooting at guards posted there before abandoning their two vehicles and fleeing on foot through the fields as police gave chase. The reports indicated that there were no deaths in exchanges of gunfire during the pursuit. Informed sources said that Mr Isma'il's office at the Interior Ministry was being regularly informed of developments in the area.

Mr Isma'il told MENA that arms "caches" had been discovered, where "armed people were in hiding." He said that there had been arrests, and that a statement would be forthcoming within the next two days. Mr Isma'il added that Egyptian authorities were seeking "certain fugitives implicated in recent incidents," and called on the population to aid police by informing on any potential suspects.

Earlier reports said that hundreds of religious extremists and government opponents had been arrested in a continuation of the crackdown begun before the death of President Anwar as-Sadat. The reported operation was aimed mainly at the clandestine Moslem Brotherhood and the paramilitary group At-Takfir Wa al-Hijran.

Meanwhile, a newsman taken in by the Mukhbarat for an identity check at police headquarters reported that about 30 young people, most of them young men wearing the Islamic style beard, were being held by police. An officer told the newsman that the young people were suspected of belonging to Jama'at Islamiyah, the student branch of the Moslem Brotherhood. "We had reports that friends of the Moslem fundamentalists arrested over the past few days were planning to attack police stations in Al-Mansurah to free their comrades," the officer said. "We have been waiting all day, but nothing happened," the policeman added.

MINISTER DENIES DISTRUBANCES IN AL-MANSURAH

NC171605 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il has denied the rumors about new disturbances in Al-Mansurah. What actually took place there, he said, was that some guards in the corn plantations last night fired a few rounds in the course of their duty and that the security forces arrived at the scene but found nothing and there were no casualties.

Isma'il said that some hideouts and arms and ammunition caches have been discovered and that a specific number of people have been arrested. The Interior Ministry will release a statement in this respect in the next 2 days.

Isma'il said that the security departments are now searching for some fugitives and troublemakers and called upon the citizens to ive information on any suspects.

INTERIOR MINISTRY ON 'ANTITERRORIST' CAMPAIGN

NC181757 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- The Interior Ministry has issued the following statement within the context of the continuous efforts being made by the Interior Ministry organs to liquidate the cells of the members of the terrorist religious organization some of whose leaders and weapons were seized on Friday, 25 September 1981 and whose leaders include 'Abbud az-Zumur and Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam Faraj, who were arrested recently. About 230 leading and other members of this organization were arrested during the past few days. Arms, explosives, documents and other evidence revealing the dimensions of their plans and methods of action to implement their terrorist objectives were also seized in their cells.

The documents include maps showing some of the key establishments, utilities and police installations they planned to attack. Plans for committing assassinations and carrying out violent operations with a view to destabilizing the country and disturbing its internal security were also seized.

The weapons and explosives seized so far total 15 machineguns, 29 automatic and semiautomatic rifles, 20 pistols of various types, 16 fragmentation and concussion handgrenades, 10 locally made bombs, 6 smoke bombs, 25 kilograms of gelignite, 16 sticks of gelignite, 3 sticks of TNT, 5 detonators, a quantity of powder used in making explosive and incendiary material and a large quantity of bullets, ammunition and rifle and machinegun magazines.

The accused confessed their role in the incidents that have taken place and the dimensions of their plans. They confessed having committed a number of armed robberies of jewelry shops to secure the necessary funds to finance the purchase of arms and cars for their movements and to hire furnished apartments and cells to implement their terrorist schemes.

Those arrested have also admitted having planned to expand their terrorist operations to other governorates as they did in Asyut, where they were confronted violently and a large number of their leaders were killed or wounded in clashes with the police forces and their weapons were seized. The police departments are continuing their efforts to arrest the remainder of the members and liquidate their cells.

The ministry has confirmed its instructions to all policemen to shoot immediately anyone trying to disturb security or resist the police to prevent them from carrying out their duties or anyone who threatens the safety of the domestic front or the security of the citizens.

ARRESTED 'TERRORIST' IS AS-SADAT MURDER SUSPECT

NC181830 Paris AFP in English 1824 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Cairo, 18 Oct (AFP) -- A total of 230 Moslem "religious terrorists" have been arrested recently in connection with the last fortnight's incidents in Egypt, the Interior Ministry announced. The Ministry said that the head of "the religious terrorist organisation," 'Abbud az-Zumur, was among those arrested in the police swoop on fundamentalist Moslem circles. 'Abbud az-Zumur is said by informed sources to have belonged to the army secret service. Informed sources here said Mr az-Zumur might have been involved in the killing of President Anwar as-Sadat on October 6. He is also believed to have been involved in a plot against Mr as-Sadat when he visited Al-Mansurah, in the delta, earlier this month, the sources said. He was reportedly arrested after a shootout in Cairo's Pyramids' quarter. His picture had earlier been splashed on newspapers and television across the country.

According to the Interior Ministry communique, important documents seized in hide-outs of the "religious terrorist organisation" indicated that the fundamentalists planned attacks and "acts of violence" to destabilize the country and jeopardize internal security.

GHAZALAH UPDATES AS-SADAT MURDER PROBE

NC190105 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2225 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah has stated that the four persons who participated in the assassination of the departed leader Anwar as-Sadat are in good health and that they have been turned over to the military prosecution for interrogation together with all those connected with the case.

In a statement to the newspaper MAY to be published tomorrow, he said three cases will be brought before the military courts shortly. The military prosecution will conduct investigations on three levels:

1-- The criminal level and all those who are connected with the crime.
2-- The security gaps through which the criminals were able to carry out the assassination plot.
3-- A third investigation within the armed forces to determine how the first accused was able to smuggle his accomplices and ammunition to the truck.

Lietenant General Abu Ghazalah added that every military prosecution team will be headed by a military prosecutor with the rank of major general who will be assisted by four military deputy prosecutors.

In another statement to the same newspaper, Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah has stated that a kind of survey has been carried out in the armed forces to identify those who have [extremist] religious tendencies. He said that 30 officers and 104 noncommissioned officers and soldiers have been dismissed and that they have assumed their civilian jobs and have retained all their rights so that their families' livelihood will not be affected.

He emphasized that this measure has been taken to keep the armed forces free of any kind of fanaticism. He said that an understanding had been reached with those who have been dismissed before this measure was taken and that they have accepted this measure magnanimously in the public interest.

Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah asserted that those who have taken civilian jobs have been proved not to have any connection with the assassination of the departed leader Anwar as-Sadat.

Further on Remarks

NC190024 Paris AFP in English 2347 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (AFP) -- In addition, a vast probe is being carried out in the Egyptian Armed Forces to find out who was involved in the As-Sadat assassination, where the security network failed, Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said.

It would also try to discover how three civilians infiltrated into the military parade Mr as-Sadat was reviewing when he was murdered, he said. The civilians were part of the four-man commando [unit] which killed the president. Gen Abu Ghazalah confirmed that all four were now "out of danger" and their case had been sent to a military court.

In another report MAY, the newspaper of the ruling National Democratic Party, charged that "extremist religious organizations" whose 230 members and leaders were recently arrested aimed to start a "Khomeyni-ist revolution" like the one led by Muslim fundamentalist Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni in Iran.

According to MAY, Egypt's Muslim extremists belonged to several small "terrorist" groups which in turn were linked wither to the Muslim Brotherhood, a fundamentalist opposition group, or to the At-Takfir wa al-Hijrah (Renounce and Repent) Organization.

Indicating the arrested people could be implicated in the As-Sadat murder, MAY said the extremist network's initial goal was "to assassinate leading political figures." Its leader was 'Abbud az-Zumur, MAY alleged. (Well-informed sources identified Mr az-Zumur as a member of the Egyptian Army's intelligence services.)

MAY said Mr az-Zumur had set up a group in charge of "planning operations," another to carry them out and another to foment "uprisings among the population."

Extremists were recruited for the movement at certain mosques known to be frequented by "fanatics," the newspaper said.

The network had its own propaganda system and referred to its members as "soldiers" once they had completed training in the martial arts and use of weapons and explosives, it said. The extremists then joined "militia" governed by "Islamic committees," MAY said.

AFP REPORTS CRACKDOWN ON FUNDAMENTALISTS

NC161837 Paris AFP in English 1817 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 16 Oct (AFP) -- Egyptian police have launched a massive crackdown on Moslem fundamentalists, an informed source said here today, with hundreds of arrests reported 10 days after the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat.

The source said that the operation was aimed at active members of the clandestine Moslem Brotherhood and the para-military group At-Takfir wa al-Hijrah, which were blamed for the recent violence in the city of Asyut. Various reports circulating in the capital and outlying areas of Egypt spoke of hundreds of fundamentalists arrested over the last few days.

Sources said that the fundamentalists being sought by the police belonged to a student adjunct of the Moslem Brotherhood, broken down into several groups called the Islamic Brotherhood with roots in a dozen universities.

The arrests were made on the basis of a list of some 7,000 active campus militants that was compiled by Egyptian intelligence and given to Mr as-Sadat, sources said. The president warned the 7,000 against engaging in any subversive activities just three weeks before he was gunned down, reportedly by Moslem extremists.

Mr as-Sadat struck at the leadership of the religious extremists in a crackdown early last month in which some 1,500 people were arrested, including 800 fundamentalists, 400 of them members of At-Takfir wa al-Hijrah. Also arrested was the fundamentalists' supreme guide, Shaykh 'Umar at-Tilmisani.

Police appeared to have stepped up their operations in anticipation of the beginning of the new school (?year on) Saturday. Strict security measures are in force at all universities where the "Islamic Brotherhood" is strong.

New security cards for access to the universities have been handed out to students after verification of their [word indistinct], and members of the brotherhood wearing the gelbab, or long white robe, will be barred. Informed sources said that several leftists were also arrested in recent days. The leftist Progressive Rally Party has published a preliminary list of 89 people hauled in for questioning.

Crackdown Continues

NC171340 Paris AFP in English 1328 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Oct (AFP) -- Egyptian authorities are continuing with their crackdown against Muslim fundamentalists, Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il confirmed here today.

The minister said the number of arrests was "limited", but he did not specify how many people had been picked up. Earlier reports said hundreds of religious extremists and government opponents had been arrested in an operation by security forces directed mainly against the clandestine Muslim Brotherhood and the paramilitary group At-Takfir wa al-Hijrah. Mr Isma'il said a small number of wanted Muslim fundamentalists was still being sought. Several hide-outs and arms caches had been found, he added. The minister appealed to Egyptians to help police in their hunt for government opponents.

Meanwhile, police sources said activist members of the At-Takfir wa al-Hijrah were being sought throughout Egypt. "Those who slip through the net today will be caught tomorrow. They have no chance," a police source said.

OPPOSITION LEADER KHALID MUHYI AD-DIN INTERVIEW

JN181059 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 17 Oct 81 p 29

[Text] Cairo (AL-MUSTAQBAL) -- A statement by the Egyptian opposition party, the National Progressive Unionist Grouping [NPUG], said this on the 5 September arrests in Egypt by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat: "Nondemocratic treatment based on suppression and violence only produces opposition forces that resort to violence, something we fear and do not desire for our country."

The assassination of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat is considered by the NPUG, as expressed to AL-MUSTAQBAL by its leader Khalid Muhyi ad-Din, "a natural result of the authorities arrest of political and religious opposition elements." Muhyi ad-Din adds: "This has been made clear by the assassination, which we denounce because our party's principles reject violence as a solution to political or other differences. The assassination shows that those who carried it out wanted revenge only against the head of state in the wake of the authorities' arrests of a relative of the person leading this operation and persons belonging to the same group, which has been identified as the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation [Takfir]."

The NPUG Party leader continues: "We have no intention to show pleasure in what has happened because we had no personal disagreement with President Anwar as-Sadat, but disagreed with him on his internal, foreign and economic policies. Thus, I sent Husni Mubarak a cable of condolences on behalf of our party. In it I said: Our party, which denounces aggression by bullets and violence against President as-Sadat or any other individual, would like to assert that solving political differences should be accomplished through democratic dialogue and free speech because our party's principles reject terror in any form. Based on my personal feeling that what stood between us and As-Sadat was not a personal difference, I took part in As-Sadat's funeral.

"We must say that violence only breeds violence. The violent measures adopted by the regime on 5 September -- arresting political and religious opposition elements, closing opposition papers and magazines, expropriating the equipment with which we print our statements and leaflets and many other measures aimed at curbing freedoms and destroying every democratic outlet -- led to the assassination of As-Sadat."

[Question] Does what you have said ential the direct and indirect reasons behind the assassination of President as-Sadat

[Answer] The direct reasons are clear and were announced by the government. They can be summed up by saying that the individuals who carried out the operation belonged to the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation [Takfir] and that the assailants' leader has a brother who was arrested by the government during the recent arrests. This indicates that the direct reasons were to take revenge. The indirect reasons are manifest in the policies adopted by President as-Sadat. It was the authorities which encouraged the emergence of religious trends in Egypt. Initially, the aim was to strike at the national forces with these trends. Therefore, the religious groups were allowed to grow and expand until they became a heavy burden for the authorities, particularly after these groups began to object to the regime's political, social and religious policies. Matters went so far that the government was unable to control them. Therefore, the Egyptian Government's resort to violence as evident in its 5 September measures in order to get rid of the political and religious opposition instead of resorting to a democratic dialogue led to further extremism by these Islamic groups and also to further terror. Meanwhile, we are aware that the national opposition will never resort to violence and plotting.

[Question] How do you explain the popular reaction and silence prevailing in Egypt after the assassination of As-Sadat?

[Answer] The people in Egypt are economically tired and politically oppressed. Moreover, we must say that the people might be shocked by the assassination because this was the first time that such an operation has been carried out in Egypt. The people are also afraid of the future because they are not yet acquainted with the new regime. The declaration of a 1-year state of emergency also frightens the citizens.

[Question] What form will the new regime take in your opinion? What will its policies be and how will it rule?

[Answer] As for the president-designate, Husni Mubarak, I cannot judge him personally because I judge a person by his policies. He announced that he will follow President as-Sadat's policies although he has a historic opportunity for political change. The new regime can be a friend to the United States and not an ally involved in its interests in the region. The new regime can also leave the issue of autonomous rule to the Palestinians themselves to deal with and decide what they want. The new regime can also open its doors to the Arab world. If it cannot go back on the Camp David accords, it can declare its acceptance of Prince Fahd's peace plan. This is on the level of foreign policy. On the domestic level, the new regime has a chance to open up to the national opposition and restore Egyptian control over the Egyptian economy. However, we find that the president-designate has declared his adherence to President as-Sadat's policy. Thus, our party opposes the election of Husni Mubarak as president. (This interview was conducted on the eve of the elections) We opposed the previous regime because of its policies and if these policies continue, nothing will change in our stand.

[Question] Does this mean that you will oppose the new president?

[Answer] Our stand on pan-Arab and national issues is consistent and does not change with a change in circumstances or individuals. How can we support the new regime when it applies an emergency law against the national opposition?

During the first 3 days of 'Id al-Adha, the security authorities arrested 60 persons from the party and national opposition cadres who had declared their objection to violence as a means to solving differences. These arrests give the impression that the old regime's method of confronting the opposition will continue. This is something we reject and warn against. Violence can only breed violence, and suppression encourages the extremist groups to show further violence and terror. This is something we do not desire for our country.

While we were interviewing Khalid Muhyi ad-Din last Sunday [11 October 1981] -- he had in front of him a list of 60 persons arrested by the Egyptian security authorities during the first 3 days of 'Id al-Adha. These included Shaykh Imam 'Isa, a well-known popular singer; Badr Farghali, member of the NPUG General Secretariat; Muhammad as-Sayyid, member of the NPUG Central Committee; trade union member 'Atiyah as-Sayrafi; Lawyer Muhammad Isma'il; and other members of the NPUG and national opposition. By Monday at noon, the number of those arrested from the national opposition by the Egyptian security authorities amounted to 89, according to the lists of names distributed to news agencies by the NPUG. Meanwhile, the arrest campaigns launched by the security authorities against hundreds belonging to Islamic groups are intensifying.

ROME PRESS CONFERENCE OF OPPOSITION SPOKESMEN

AU161629 Rome ANSA in English 1536 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Rome, 16 Oct (ANSA) -- The assassination of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat last week was identified today as an "act of national guerrilla warfare" which had nothing to do with terrorism and assassination, two spokesman for the opposition "Egyptian National Front" told a press conference in Rome.

The pair, (Abid Dimitri) and (Shukry Ghali), said that the Arab People's Congress had given them the job of travelling to European capitals to combat "imperialist and Zionist propaganda which had made As-Sadat into a man of peace".

The Arab People's Congress, headquartered in Tripoli, is a pan-Arab organization which groups some 150 political parties, movements and trade unions holding down "progressive" positions in the Arab world.

The two Egyptian opposition spokesmen argued the point of view that the Camp David framework accord, signed in the autumn of 1978 by Egypt, Israel and the United States, represented the "surrender" of the Egyptian people to "the enemy front" and has been of no benefit for one of the most representative of Arab peoples.

(Abid Dimitri), highly critical of the late Egyptian head of state, described As-Sadat as a man who "held up a mask of false democracy who was then shown in his real guise by the wave of arrests he ordered in the weeks just before his end".

To support his statement that As-Sadat's promises of benefits for the people flowing out of peace were false, (Dimitri) began citing figures. "As-Sadat increased military spending ten percent in one year. The national debt climbed by 24 billion dollars in the same period while in twelve months the rate of inflation topped 35 percent".

(Shukry Ghali) maintained that the disorders following As-Sadat's death took place not only in the southern city of Asyut but occurred in Alexandria and Al-Mansurah. He went on to declare that, "As-Sadat's death was an act of guerrilla warfare which beheaded the regime, penetrated all its defences for which the United States spent over twenty million dollars annually".

The opposition spokesmen concluded by explaining that the Egyptian National Front brings together a number of political movements and that the avowed purpose of the opposition is to topple the regime created by the late president, now headed by the new leader, Husni Mubarak.

ANTIREGIME RADIO ON NATION'S 'DELIVERANCE'

JN141040 (Clandestine) Voice of Egyptian People in Arabic to Egypt 1930 GMT 13 Oct 81

["Our Opinion" program]

[Excerpts] One week after As-Sadat's assassination the following question poses itself: What are the political changes that have taken place at the core of the ruling regime in Egypt?

Actually, not much has changed. The reason for this lack of political change, despite As-Sadat's death, is not that the rule of parasitic capitalism and that of traitors and agents is Egypt's lot. The reason is that the change needed in Egypt cannot be brought about by the assassination of one or more traitors. As-Sadat did not associate himself with U.S. imperialism and Zionism, join the hostile Camp David alliance against the Egyptian and other Arab peoples, follow the instruction of the World Bank and the interests of foreign monopolies and open Egypt's doors to parasitic imperialism because his personal interests dictated that he do so, but because he was expressing the interests of a social stratum that has grown and spread over the past 10 years. All As-Sadat's policies expressed the interests of this stratum, represented in feudalists, black marketeers, brokers, spare parts merchants, exporters and importers, contractors, drug traffickers and others.

As soon as As-Sadat departed, parasitic capitalism presented a new representative and advocate for it, namely, Husni Mubarak who in turn proclaimed allegiance to parasitic capitalism, imperialism and Zionism when he asserted that he will follow the Camp David course, the course of subservience to colonialism, the course of [word indistinct] and the plunder of the Egyptian people. Husni Mubarak has well digested the lesson begun by As-Sadat, the lesson of treason and unconditional surrender.

Egypt's deliverance will never be achieved by assassination. As soon as one traitor falls, another takes his place. The real Egyptian opposition realizes this, as expressed by struggler Khalid Muhyi ad-Din, secretary general of the Nationalist Progressive Unionist Grouping [NPUG] Party, when he said that political differences are not resolved in this manner. The toppling of the parasitic capitalist system requires the people to understand that their objective is not to topple Mubarak or other agents but to topple the entire regime headed by Mubarak. The people should rally around their real nationalist leadership, the nucleus of the Egyptian opposition front, called for by the Egyptian Communist Party and NPUG.

The picture has become clear to our people. Recent events have uncovered the people's real friends and concealed foes. The Socialist Labor Party, which claimed that it struggles for Egypt's welfare and independence against the Camp David process and (subservience to imperialism), is today supporting the Camp David process, Husni Mubarak and the the system of parasitic capitalism now that a real danger is threatening the present regime. There is a big difference between the advocates of genuine change and genuine independence who are struggling in word and deed for a better future for Egypt and those whoc seek to deceive the people.

MAY SAYS GROUPS PLAN 'KHOMEYNI REVOLUTION'

NC190324 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- The weekly MAY magazine reports that in the past few days the security organs at the Interior Ministry have discovered documents in the hideouts of terrorist religious groups in some provinces revealing the dimensions of the plans of these groups.

In Monday's edition, the paper reports that there is a terrorist organization that planned to proclaim "the Khomeyni revolution" at a later stage and that the organization also planned the formation of revolutionary committees embracing organized and trained elements to be called "the militia." It adds that 230 leaders and members of the organization have been arrested and that large sums of money in local and foreign currency have been found in the possession of some of those arrested.

MAY says this discovery is part of continuing policies efforts to hunt down the leaders and members of the terrorist organization which was discovered on 25 September 1981 before the assassination of leader Anwar as-Sadat. The organization is led by 'Abbud az-Zumur, who was recently arrested by the police.

The paper points out that Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il is himself following the details of this operation and planning its execution.

MAY adds: In the past few days the security organs have discovered a number of hideouts of terrorist Islamic groups in some of the provinces wherein they have found weapons, explosives and ammunition. The security men have also discovered documents and materials revealing the dimensions of the groups' plans and their architects. It so happens that these groups include elements of the Islamic groups and of the religious organizations known as the Societies of Repudiation and Renunciation [Takfir].

The paper adds that at their meetings, these groups and organizations agreed to set aside their ideological differences for the present and to pursue one goal and one line -- to assassinate some prominent political leaders, to create an atmosphere of confusion, terrorism and demagoguery and to attack police stations with a view to paralyzing them and controlling the security situation.

MAY explains that these elements agreed to divide their work among three groups: One group would plan the operations, learn all the details and make the assignments; another group would be informed of its roles and duties a short time before the operations; and a third group would have a role to play after the operations.

The paper says it has been discovered that these terrorist groups issued dicta through some of their extremist elements to justify their assassination, sabotage and robbery operations and to obtain funds. The elements issuing the dicta spoke with no religious or scientific authority. An example of this is their justification that stealing money and property is for the purchase of arms, explosives and knives and for the renting of furnished apartments to use as cells for their operations. Another example is the dictum they issued justifying the murder of whoever opposes their views or resists their plans.

MAY has learned that to recruit collaborators, the terrorist groups visited some mosques where there are extremist preachers in order to win over some of them.

The paper says: Regarding the training operations, the organization decided to give the title of soldier (jundi) to everyone who completed his training on the use of weapons and explosives and training in karate, attack and self-defense operations. The organization planned the formation of "revolutionary committees" embracing organized and trained elements to be called "the militia." The organization's leaders planned to proclaim "the Khomeyni revolution" at a later stage. They arranged for the carrying out of operations similar to those that took place in Asyut and several other governorates. They believed that they would be able to escape with their weapons after carrying out the Asyut incidents. They did not expect a large number of their leaders and elements to be killed and that a larger number would be wounded in the Asyut clash with the police. The clash resulted in the seizure of all their weapons that they had managed to acquire before the operation or that they seized after killing some soldiers from Asyut.

MAY goes on: The terrorist elements confessed that they did not expect at all that the police blow would be so decisive, harsh and violent. They also admitted that they did not expect that a large number of them would be arrested after they fled from Asyut to other governorates with bullet wounds.

The terrorists also said they had not imagined that the rank and file in Asyut and neighboring cities would condemn their crimes so strongly.

MAY points out that the terrorists also admitted that in accordance with a dictum by the mufti of the terrorist organization on the right to commit armed thefts and burglary to increase financial revenue, they robbed three jewelry shops in Naj' Hamadi several months ago, killing the owners and some customers and taking a quantity of gold. They also attacked another shop in Shubra al-Khayma and bought cars, weapons and ammunition from the proceeds of the goods they stole. The terrorists said one of their leaders took a percentage of the profits from the stolen goods for himself.

MAY adds: About 230 leaders and members of the organization have been arrested. Large sums of money in local and foreign currency, some of which came from abroad, were found in their possession. The cars belonging to the organization have been seized.

MAY says a large number of citizens have voluntarily helped the police and directed them to some of the terrorists' hideouts in the cities and villages. It adds that some of the accused have repented after becoming aware of the falsehoods and misconceptions in the dicta to which they adhered.

REACTION REPORTED TO DEATH OF MOSHE DAYAN

Mubarak Condoles Navon

NC171228 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1158 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Oct (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of condolences to His Excellency President Yitzhaq Navon, the head of the State of Israel, on the death of former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. The text of the cable reads:

I received with great sorrow the news of the death of former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. In my name and on behalf of the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt, I convey to you profoundest sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of the departed. We remember with appreciation his positive role in the peace efforts, which we confidently look forward to continuing until they bear their cherished fruits. I implore God almighty to grant you and the family of the deceased patience and solace.

'Ali Comment

NC171618 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, commenting on the death of former Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, has said that one feels sorrow at his death as he was a man who had a military history in his country. He was a first class fighter for Israel. Each of us fought with courage and honesty. Now, in time of peace, we must forget everything about the war.

'Ali added that Dayan was an honest man who defended his beliefs. In my contact with him during the negotiations over the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and full autonomy, he exerted constructive efforts toward bringing about a just peace.

Butrus Ghali Statement

NC162124 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Former Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan died tonight, according to news agency dispatches. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has said that Moshe Dayan was a personality who played an important part in the negotiations between Egypt and Israel and positively contributed toward the ratification of the peace treaty. He was also a political personality believing in the possibility of reaching a peaceful coexistence between Israel and the Palestinian people.

MUBARAK SENDS THANK-YOU CABLES TO NAVON, BEGIN

NC161449 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1405 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 16 Oct (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has affirmed that the Egyptian people believe in peace as a principle and vital necessity and that they are determined to continue the peace process until it achieves its goal and the peoples in the area live in security and stability.

This was contained in thank-you cables which President Mubarak has sent to Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon and Prime Minister Menahem Begin in reply to their cables of condolences on the death of the late leader Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

Following is the text of the cable which President Mubarak has sent to Israeli President Navon:

My dear friend: I have received with gratitude your cable that conveyed to us your sincere condolences on the martyrdom of the late President as-Sadat. I convey to you my sincerest thanks for your noble feelings toward me and toward the Egyptian people who believe in peace as a principle and a vital necessity. While our people have been greatly grieved by the loss of one of their most prominent sons, they are determined to continue the peace process until it yields its aspired fruits and peace and security prevails in the area contributing toward the establishment of a better society. With my best wishes to you and to the Israeli people.

President Mubarak has also sent the following thank-you cable to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin:

I have received with gratitude your kind cable conveying to us your sincerest condolences on the martyrdom of the late President as-Sadat. While conveying to you and to the government and people of Israel my prodound thanks for your condolences, I affirm to you that the peace process will continue with firm strides along its course until it achieves its high goal and the peoples in the area live in peace, security and stability. With my best wishes.

MUBARAK SENDS CABLES TO REAGAN, BUSH, HAIG

NC161547 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has affirmed Egypt's determination to continue the process of achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, noting that the world's security and safety were linked with the degree of stability of the security in this vital region.

In a thank-you cable he sent to U.S. President Ronald Reagan in reply to his condolences on the death of leader Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, President Mubarak said that Egypt was looking forward with confidence to consolidating the ties of fruitful cooperation between the two friendly countries in their mutual interests and in serving world security and peace.

President Mubarak has also sent a thank-you cable to U.S. Vice President George Bush for his condolences on the death of leader Anwar as-Sadat, in which he affirmed that he was looking forward with confidence to strengthening the bridges of positive cooperation between Egypt and the United States.

President Mubarak has sent a similar thank-you cable to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig in reply to his cable of condolences on the death of leader Anwar as-Sadat, in which he said that although Egypt had lost one of its dearest sons, who will always be recorded in history, it was capable, with God's help, to continue along the road toward a just and lasting peace until it prevails in the Middle East so that our peoples may enjoy peace and security and positively contribute toward establishing a better society.

'ALI MEETS U.S. AMBASSADOR ATHERTON ON AUTONOMY

Atherton Statement

NC181620 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today met with U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton. Following the meeting, which lasted about an hour, Atherton said that the discussions centered on the autonomy talks to be held at the technical level from 21 through 29 October in Israel.

The U.S. ambassador said that the autonomy talks were discussed during U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's visit to Cairo. Today, he said, we continued the discussions on this topic in light of the talks held with Alexander Haig. Atherton said that the three parties to the talks -- Egypt, Israel and the United States -- are committed and intend to make progress in them. Asked whether the discussions dealt with proposals by Linowitz [as received] regarding autonomy, he said: We did not touch upon this topic. Alfred Atherton, asked whether he had noticed a change in the Egyptian stand, replied: I have absolutely not seen any change in Egypt's basic goals. The three of us -- Egypt, Israel and the United States -- have agreed to increase the number of meetings of the autonomy committees at the experts level and we have drawn up agendas for them for the next 2 months. Atherton was also asked whether the discussions had dealt with the multinational force, to which he said: We did not touch upon this topic today. However, there have been many contacts on this topic with a number of states, but not through me.

'Ali Comments

NC181650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today met with the members of the Egyptian side to the new round of discussions on Palestinian autonomy that will begin in Tel Aviv on Wednesday and will last 5 days. Following the meeting, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that during the meeting a review was made of the stage reached in the autonomy negotiations during the past 2 years and what had been accomplished during the last session of negotiations which was held at the ministerial level in Cairo last month. Views on the coming phase of the discussions and the principles and basis which Egypt visualizes for the next phase to give momentum to the peace process were also discussed during the meeting. Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that during his meeting today with U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton they reviewed the discussions which took place during U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's visit to Egypt (?about) the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy and bilateral relations between Egypt and the United States. It has been learned that the discussions dealt with stability in the area and U.S. military aid to Egypt. It has also been learned that Kamal Hasan 'Ali reasserted that all that Egypt needs is support with equipment and arms.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

No 492

JN151635 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Oct (INA) -- During the last 24 hours, the Iranian forces sustained 80 killed and 3 tanks, 6 vehicles and 1 rocket launcher destroyed.

Communique No 492, issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening, said that the military operations took place in the regions of Shush, Khafajiyah [Susangerd], Dezful, Mimak, Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Nowsud. It indicated that Iraqi aircraft today attacked the enemy concentrations and positions in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring effective hits before returning safely to base. The Iraqi losses were nine martyred and one mortar and one excavator damaged. Following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today. Following are the results of these activities:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units hit the enemy concentrations opposite our positions in the Shush region, inflicting massive losses amounting to 33 killed and 1 vehicle and 1 observation post destroyed.
B. Our forward units inflicted on the enemy concentrations in the Abadan region the following losses: 16 killed and 2 tanks and 4 vehicles destroyed.
C. One of our forward units raided the enemy positions in the Khafajiyah region, killing 15 and destroying 1 tank, 1 vehicle and 1 rocket launcher.
D. Three killed and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Dezful region.
E. Five killed in the Mimak region opposite one of our units' positions in Sayf Sa'd.
F. Three killed in the Sumar region.
G. Three killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
H. One killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
I. One killed in the Nowsud region.
J. Today our aircraft attacked the enemy concentrations and positions in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring effective hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 80 killed and 3 tanks, 6 vehicles, 1 rocket launcher, 1 stockpile of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: nine martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One mortar and one excavator damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 October 1981

No 493

JN161703 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Oct (INA) -- The Iraqi Armed Forces at dawn today attacked Iranian enemy positions in the Shush area and occupied them after teaching the enemy a great lesson and inflicting heavy losses in arms, equipment and personnel.

Communique No 493 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening said that the Iranian enemy's losses during this battle were 154 killed, scores of captured and the destruction of 7 tanks, 2 personnel carriers, as well as the capture of 2 serviceable tanks, a number of heavy weapons, large amounts of light and medium weapons and ammunition, all serviceable.

The military statement says that total known enemy losses in the battles which took place last night and today, including losses in the Shush battles, amounted to 197 killed and 12 tanks, 4 armored personnel carriers, 2 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 2 rocket launchers, 6 stockpiles of hardware, 1 observation post and large quantities of heavy, medium and light weapons and equipment destroyed or captured.

Following is the text of communique No 493 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful the compassionate. With heroic zeal, our victorious armed forces struck at the forces of the racist Persian enemy in the various sectors of operations. The results for last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our valiant units attacked enemy positions in the Shush area. Following a fierce battle in which they fought courageously, our heroic fighters succeeded in surrounding an enemy force and teaching it a lesson. They thus proved their superiority and determination to achieve final victory over the enemy. As a result of the battle fought by the vanguards of our forces at dawn today, enemy soldiers were forced to desert their positions, which our brave units occupied after inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in weapons, hardware and personnel. Visible enemy losses were: 154 killed, a large number captured and seven tanks and two armored personnel carriers destroyed. Our units also captured two tanks, two armored personnel carriers, several heavy weapons and large quantities of medium and light weapons and various types of equipment, some of which are usable.

B. Our forward units, using different types of weapons, shelled enemy positions in Abadan, killing 12 and destroying two tanks, one vehicle, one gun, one excavator and four stockpiles of hardware.

C. Ten were killed and one vehicle, two rocket launchers, one stockpile of hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.

D. Nine were killed in the Nowsud region.

E. Eight were killed in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin.

F. Two were killed in the Sumar region.

G. Two were killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.

H. One tank and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Mimak region opposite our forces in Sayf Sa'd.

Thus, total known enemy losses were: 197 killed and 12 tanks, 4 armored personnel carriers, 2 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 2 rocket launchers, 6 stockpiles of hardware, 1 observation post and large quantities of heavy, medium and light weapons and various types of equipment destroyed or captured.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Nine martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle and one gun damaged.

[Signed] Armed Forces General Command, 16 October 1981

No 494

JN171647 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Oct (INA) -- Iraqi fighter planes today attacked Iranian enemy's positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the theater of operations, scoring direct and painful hits. Our planes returned safely to base.

Communique No 494 issued tonight by the Armed Forces General Command said that the Iraqi forces killed 35 Iranians and destroyed 1 personnel carrier, 3 vehicles, 3 guns, 4 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts. Following is the text of communique No 494 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Enemy concentrations were sighted in front of our forward units in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area. Our units pounded the concentrations with various types of weapons, killing 15 and destroying 1 personnel carrier, 1 vehicle laden with hardware, 2 guns, 1 stockpile of hardware and 2 observation posts.
B. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the Shush area, killing 11 and destroying 1 gun.
C. Four were killed in the Nowsud area.
D. Two were killed and two vehicles and three stockpiles of hardware were destroyed in the Abadan area.
E. Three were killed in the Mehran area.
F. Our valiant fighter planes attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the theater of operations scoring direct and painful hits. Our planes returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 35 dead, 1 personnel carrier, 3 vehicles, 3 guns, 4 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Eight martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Six vehicles and one mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 October 1981

No 495

JN181717 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Oct (INA) -- The Iraqi forces pounded the Iranian enemy forces at their positions in Abadan, Dezful, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Khafajiyah [Susangerd] and Sayf Sa'd and killed 42.

This was stated by communique No 495 issued here tonight on the military activities in the operational sectors during the past 24 hours.

The communique pointed out that the losses inflicted on the enemy also included three vehicles, two field guns and two stockpiles of hardware. Here is the text of the communique.

Communique No 495 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Following are the results of our valiant armed forces' activities in the operational sectors yesterday evening and this morning:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and concentrations in the Abadan region, killing 17 and destroying 1 vehicle and 2 stockpiles of hardware.
B. A concentration of enemy personnel were sighted opposite one of our units' positions in the Dezful area. This unit pounded it, forcing it to retreat and killing 11.
C. Eight were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
D. Three were killed in the Khafajiyah area.
E. Two were killed and one fieldgun destroyed in the Shush area.
F. One was killed in the Mimak area in front of one of our units' positions in Sayf Sa'd.
G. Two vehicles were destroyed in the Iranian area opposite Panjwin and one fieldgun was destroyed in the Nowsud area.
H. One armored vehicle was destroyed in Ahgaz.

Thus total known enemy losses amount to 42 dead, 3 vehicles, two fieldguns, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 1 armored vehicle destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Eight martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two mortar were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 October 1981

MILITARY SOURCE ON SHUSH AREA OFFENSIVE

JN171202 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 17 Oct (INA) -- A military source has announced that Iraqi forces have taken full control of the two strategic regions of (Al-Akhaydar) and (Sheykh Troyt) after yesterday's fierce battle at Shush in the southern sector of the battlefield.

The source told two journalists from the newspapers ATH-THAWRAH and AL-JUMHURIYAH, who accompanied the Iraqi forces during the successful attack, that the Iraqi forces had taken control of enemy positions on the Karkheh River after crushing the Iranian forces and inflicting on them massive losses in lives and equipment.

He added that the Iraqi forces achieved splendid results in their operation, which was called "the heroes' revenge," and that our forces seized three tanks -- two Chieftains and a Scorpion -- two armored personnel carriers and a number of vehicles, in addition to a large number of captives.

The military source added that the brave Iraqi forces will continue their attacks until the Persian enemy yields to our just demands.

AHVAZ FRONT WELCOMES BANI-SADR, RAJAVI REMARKS

JN122032 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Oct 81

["Text" of statement issued by Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz -- date and place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Statement on the recent statements made by Bani-Sadr and Mas'ud Rajavi:

Oh sons of our struggler people in Ahvaz; oh sons of the steadfast Iranian people: The events that have been rocking Iran since the downfall of the Pahlavi family have posed a major question to the new rulers: Why these mass executions and this organized annihilation of the Iranian minorities? And why this blood-thirsty unprecedented sadism? Without dealing with the bitter and tragic Iranian reality, we say: The first and last cause is that the Iranian peoples, who after the shah's oppression looked forward to freedom, progress and respect for their ethnic rights, were faced with a regime that attaches no importance to the ethnic rights and the feelings of any individual of any ethnic group or minority which suddenly found themselves dominated by the buried shah's regime.

Our Arab people in the Ahvaz, like the other Iranian peoples, hoped that the hour of freedom, progress and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Iranian peoples had come with the downfall of the empire that had dominated the Iranian peoples for centuries.

Oh honorable people everywhere: The new rulers in Tehran imagined, as did the shah, that through the killing and destruction of modern life, they could wipe out the noble nature of the modern life, they could wipe out the noble nature of the Iranian peoples whose sons had waged a ceaseless struggle against the shah's oppressive measures. Since the khomeyni clique has pursued this dangerous course and has abandoned the essence of Islam, which calls for fraternization and for discarding fanaticism, the struggle to wipe out this clique and to wrest the legitimate rights of the Iranian ethnic groups has become an important national and religious duty in the history of the peoples who are forging ahead along the road of struggle against this backward and frivolous onslaught.

Amidst this sturggle, Mr Mas'ud Rajavi made his statements on granting national rights to the Iranian peoples, thus contributing an advanced, human and contemporary concept of the basic problems facing Iran and also paving the way for radical sound solutions to this bloody struggle which has been engulfing Iran ever since Khomeyni and his extremist clique assumed power after usurping che sturggle of the Iranian people.

Mr Bani-Sadr's statement on the same subject gave a good and special dimension that should have been taken into consideration earlier to enable the Iranian people to avert this bloodshed that has obstructed economic and intellectual life in Iran. This bloodshed threatens to return to Iran to the dark and backward ages.

Oh sons of our Arab people in Ahvaz; oh steadfast Iranian peoples: the grave deviation, the rivers of blood, chaos, famine, insecurity, disruption of life's necessities and lagging behind world progress and stability are all prominent features characterizing the ruling clique. Our legitimate and honorable rights will be wrested only through a struggle of blood and sacrifice until the destruction of the symbols which attach no importance to the rights of the ethnic minorities in Iran, including the setting up of autonomy which would enable them to enjoy democratic practices and to preserve the nature of their life against the extermination sought by the shah and which is being sought by Khomeyni and his extremist, backward and suspect clique. These rights were safeguarded under Islam, the religion of progress, freedom and equality. It is a revolution of the Ahvaz until victory.

[Signed] The Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz

AHVAZ FRONT RECEIVES CABLES OF SUPPORT

JN141359 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Oct (INA) -- The Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz has received cables of support from the Eritrean Liberation Front Revolutionary Council in Djibouti, the General Federation of Trade Unions in Djibouti and the Tunisian Arab Progressive Youth in Algeria.

The cables expressed support for the formation of the front and readiness to devote all efforts to the Arab land usurped by the Persian enemy. They said that they stand by the front in its just struggle for the deliverance of the Arab people in Ahvaz from the oppression and exploitation of racist Persian colonialism.

The Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz proclaimed the start of its political and militant activity and formed an executive committee to lead this activity on 22 September.

KURDISH SOURCE ON INTERNECINE KURDISH FIGHTING

JN152018 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1640 GMT 15 Oct 81

[Text] Dear listeners: Once again, in cooperation with Saddam's racist regime, the Qassemlu group squandered the blood of Kurdistan's sons after a recent attack against our forces launched from the Iraqi territory. This time, too, Qassemlu, (Sayyid Rasul Babjawrah) and other criminals are held responsible for the results of this blind implementation of the Ba'thist regime's schemes in Kurdistan.

On 13 October 1981, the Qassemlu group attacked our party's peshmerga but were forced to flee on the same day in disappointment. We have received additional confirmed information today on the results of the comprehensive attack. This information says that nine bodies fell into the hands of our party's forces, in addition to the bodies they carried away with them. Our forces also seized weapons and equipment other than those mentioned previously. These totalled a 60-mm guns, 2 TPG launchers, 1 57-mm gun, more than 15 rifles of various calibers and large quantities of hardware, artillery shells and various equipment. Our losses were three slightly-wounded pershmerga.

Oh honorable people of Kurdistan: It was Qassemlu's group that began this attack. They planned to attack us from two fronts with the full support of Saddam's regime. The joint plan of the Qassemlu group and the fascist Iraqi regime aimed firstly at attacking our forces from the (Kilashin)-Oshnoviyeh line in order to restore control of this road, and secondly at attacking our brother refugees in the (Malgavar) region.

Our militant forces foiled this joint plan by crushing the attack. They have thye been clearly exposed by the Kurdistan masses in both Iraq and Iran. The Qassemlu group are historically responsible for this crime as well as previous crimes. This group [words indistinct] which harm the Kurdish people and their liberation movement.

We place these facts before the Kurdish people and the revolutionary forces in Kurdistan and the entire region so that all will know and condemn the crimes of those collaborating with Saddam's regime. These crimes have become an Iraqi sheild for the Baghdad regime.

Death and disgrace to agent Saddam's regime; victory to the Kurdish people and their faithful national forces.

KING HUSAYN BEGINS TOUR OF ARAB STATES

JN171600 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Amman -- His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Baghdad this afternoon beginning an Arab tour in which he will visit a number of fraternal states to hold talks with their leaders to evaluate the Arab situation, current developments, and inter-Arab relations. The king was received at Baghdad airport by President Saddam Husayn; 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman; Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, vice president; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, secretary general of the RCC and acting chief of the presidential office; a number of RCC members and ministers; and senior Iraqi officials. He was also received by the Iraqi ambassador in Amman and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

When he left Amman today his majesty was seen off by Crown Prince Hasan, the president of the Senate, the speaker of the National Consultative Council, the chief chamberlain, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the ministers, his majesty's military secretary, the ambassadors of the states to be visited by his majesty, and senior military and government officials. His majesty is accompanied by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Ahmad al-Lawzi and Minister of Court 'Amir Khammash.

Crown Prince Hasan was sworn in as regent during his majesty's absence from the homeland. The swearing-in ceremony was attended by members of the Cabinet. A royal decree has been issued appointing Finance Minister Salim Masa'idah as acting prime minister.

INFORMATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM BRITAIN

JN182026 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT Oct 81

[Text] Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah returned here from Britain this evening at the end of a weeklong visit.

Abu 'Awdah said the visit's purpose was to exchange views on the Middle East and various developments with Lord Carrington, secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs; and Douglas Hurd, minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth office.

The situation in the Middle East was reviewed with several members of the Houses of Lords and Commons in the British Parliament and top BBC editors.

He pointed out that during a visit to the Royal Institute for International Affairs, he spoke in the course of a lengthy discussion on political developments in the Middle East.

MEDICAL CONFERENCE CALLS END OF GULF WAR

JN180753 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Oct 81 p 1

[Excerpt] Amman, 18 Oct (J.T.) -- More than 1,000 Arab doctors warned today of the "grave dangers" inherent in the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war and called on the Tehran government to "open a new page" in its relations with Baghdad.

A statement at the end of the 19th Pan-Arab Medical Congress said participants in the three-day annual meeting "warn of the grave dangers resulting from the continuation (of the Gulf war), which will introduce to the region foreign and imperialist intervention under the guise of maintaining the security and stability of the Arabian Gulf and guaranteeing the flow of oil" from the region.

The doctors, who represent medical associations in 12 Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, also warned that the 13-month old Gulf War "can produce a rupture in those forces confronting the (alliance of) the Zionist enemy and the partners to Camp David."

DAILY: U.S. FUELING TENSIONS IN REGION

JN170736 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Oct 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Continuing Intimidation"]

[Text] The United States, Egypt and Sudan are planning to hold joint military exercises in Egypt as a show of strength in the face of what they allege is Soviet-inspired Libyan adventurism in the area. Egypt has declared an alert on the Libyan border, and has also sent anti-aircraft batteries to reinforce Sudanese army units which are supposed to protect their borders from an assumed Libyan invasion by crossing the Chadian border with Sudan. The United States has sent two AWACS planes, similar to those the Reagan administration wants to sell to Saudi Arabia, on an open-ended mission to Egypt; these planes, manned by American pilots and technicians, have gone into action already and are reported to be monitoring Libya's borders with Sudan and Egypt. Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has unequivocally declared that he will be sending 600 suicide commandos into Libya, as well as inciting Sudanese expatriate workers there to carry out sabotage activities and wage secret battles against that country and its government.

Judging by highlighted reports in the Western media about all these activities and events, and by the fact that even respected institutions are already counting the numbers of tanks and guns each of three neighbouring Arab countries has, we are in [as published] to witness an eruption of a war between a military alliance of Egypt and Sudan, supported by the American military equipment, on the one hand and Libya on the other.

That the United States has gone a long way in fuelling tensions -- not only by taking extreme views of the situation in this part of the world but also be stepping up massive supplies of military hardware, including the AWACS, to Egypt and Sudan -- is an undisputable fact. We know that American officials have somehow called for restraint, but we also know that the United States has once before intimidated Libya when its navy fighters shot down two of that country's planes over the Gulf of Sidra. Needless to say that the U.S. has not changed its policy of carrying it to the limit with the much smaller country than itself, and that the mighty superpower may now be trying to use other countries for the same purpose. Considering the prevailing political climate in the are as such, especially after the departure from the political scene of Anwar as-Sadat, the U.S. may well be trying to fuel tension to a point where it can further strengthen its foothold in the Middle East and Africa.

Whether a war will actually erupt is a question that we can not answer with any certainty. But we can be sure that it would be in nobody's interest, especially those of the three Arab countries, if such a war were to take place -- now or at any time.

Lacks Peacemaking Capability

JN190904 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 19 Oct 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Mythology Survives"]

[Text] President as-Sadat may be dead, but the mythology of Middle Eastern peace-making that he implanted in the breezy minds of American presidents is very much alive. President Reagan has just stated that the U.S. Senate's approval of the arms-and-AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia is crucial for the United States to maintain its "credibility and peace-making ability" in the Middle East.

What credibility? What peace-making ability? What, precisely, is Ronald Reagan talking about?

The reality of life in the Holy Land is that the United States has little credibility, few allies, fewer real friends of any substance and no room to manoeuvre at all given its one-track approach to the area's challenges and problems.

The troubling aspect of the situation today is that the United States honestly believes, whether out of naivete or stubborn ignorance, that it has a peace-making capability in the region. It does not. What it has is the capacity to further aggravate the lives of Middle Eastern nations that neither want nor need the great power rivalry that is being imposed on this part of the world via the wild west politics of Mr Reagan and his gun-toting strategic groupies.

We are once again amazed at the capacity of the leadership of the United States to maintain the mythological basis of its policies in such a vital region of the world as the Middle East. Wake up, Mr Reagan, before you are jolted by something truly catastrophic. Your credibility among us has long ago crumbled. Try at least to salvage your ability to see the world as it really is.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND -- Jordan's Ambassador to India Walid ad-Durrah yesterday submitted his credentials to the King of Thailand as Jordan's nonresident Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand. [Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Oct 81 JN]

OUTGOING BAHRAINI AMBASSADOR -- Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim held a party today in honor of Bahraini Ambassador Salim al-Absi, at the end of the latter's term of office as Ambassador to Jordan. [Excerpt] [Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Oct 81 JN]

REPORTAGE OF U.S. ENVOY DRAPER'S VISIT

Meeting With Sarkis

NC161318 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis today received U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper, who was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Robert Dillon, the U.S. charge d'affaires and another senior U.S. state department official.

Draper arrived in Beirut from Israel today for talks with high-ranking Lebanese officials on developments in the area.

Discussions With Al-Wazzan

NC170922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] At 0930 today, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan received U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs Morris Draper in the presence of U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon and U.S. charge d'affaires Robert Barrett. They reviewed developments in the area and what may happen in the area following the assassination of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat.

Butrus Comments on Meeting

NC171402 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus today received U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper, who was accompanied by the U.S. Ambassador and the charge d'affaires. Following the meeting, Minister Butrus said:

[Begin recording] Mr Draper's visit to the area, including Lebanon, is within the framework of consultations between the United States and the states of the region. Another purpose is to exchange views and ideas regarding the coming stage in light of recent events in the region. Furthermore, it was an opportunity for us to discuss the present situation in Lebanon and the role the United States can play vis-a-vis southern Lebanon and in Lebanon as a whole to return the situation in Lebanon to normal.

[Question] Can you tell us the nature of the upcoming U.S. steps vis-a-vis Lebanon?

[Answer] Some newspapers have published that there is a U.S. plan that has been discussed with Israel concerning the area. I would like to clarify that this is not true. However, you are aware that the United States does not interfere directly in Lebanon's affairs but is ready to extend any assistance to ease tension and restore the situation to normal, whether on the international level or in Lebanon.

[Question] Can you tell us if Draper's visit to Lebanon is a prelude to an upcoming visit by envoy Philip Habib?

[Answer] Draper's visit to Lebanon is not inevitably linked to a visit to Lebanon by envoy Philip Habib. Habib's arrival in the area depends on other considerations. [words indistinct].

[Question] Regarding the meeting of the followup committee at the foreign ministers level -- will this meeting still be held on 7 November?

[Answer] I see no reason for changing this date. Although I hope that the meeting will be held before 7 November, it seems that the commitments of some foreign ministers preclude fixing an earlier date. [end recording]

Meeting With Al-Jumayyil

NC181229 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Excerpts] U.S. diplomat Morris Draper this morning met with Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil in the course of his contacts concerning the situation in Lebanon.

In reply to correspondents' questions, Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil pointed out that this meeting was a continuation of the meetings which were held in Lebanon and the United States. He said that the discussion dealt with possible solutions to the Lebanese problem, which are still under study.

Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil expressed the hope that the contacts being held by the United States would help the U.S. Administration to understand the Lebanese problem in depth, diagnose the illness, and prescribe the necessary solutions.

Asked whether he has felt a change in U.S. policy after the departure of As-Sadat, he said: After what happened in Egypt and before anything happens in places other than Egypt, the United States is supposed to make an objective assessment of the situation -- not according to U.S. or Western logic but according to Eastern logic to prevent a future shock.

Asked whether he has sensed a new mentality in the U.S. Administration vis-a-vis the present stage, he said: I felt this during my recent visit to Washington, and since President Reagan took office there is no doubt that the United States has begun looking at matters with a different logic than before.

The 2-hour meeting between Draper and Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil took place in the house of the U.S. ambassador at 0900 today.

Press Comments on Draper Talks

NC171110 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 17 Oct 81

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] This morning's papers concentrate on the visit to Lebanon by U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs Morris Draper, the domestic events in Egypt in light of the extensive arrests the new Egyptian authorities are carrying out and the atmosphere of tension along the Egyptian-Libyan and Sudanese-Libyan borders.

After highlighting on its front page the threat uttered by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri that he will send suicide squads to Libya, AL-ANWAR discusses the visit of the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state to Beirut. It says: U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper, who arrived in Beirut yesterday, emphasized following his meeting with President Sarkis that the United States is giving serious attention to Lebanon and that Lebanon occupies a special position at the top of U.S. interests. Draper explained that the U.S. Administration is dealing with the question of Lebanon and that of the area within this framework.

AL-ANWAR adds: Draper's visit to Beirut has brought new assurances by the U.S. Administration of support for the legitimate authority in Lebanon and for strengthening the army.

AL-LIWA' also concentrates on Morris Draper's visit to Beirut. It says: U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper yesterday discussed with President Ilyas Sarkis the situation in the Middle East and the consequences of the assassination of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. Draper told reporters after his meeting with President Sarkis that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig charged him with discussing the likely developments in the near future following As-Sadat's death on 6 October. It has been learned that Draper, who is responsible for Middle East affairs, discussed a possible new mission to the area to be undertaken by U.S. special envoy Philip Habib. Draper described his discussions with President Sarkis as good.

TISHRIN INTERVIEWS TALAS ON POLICY IN LEBANON

JN170927 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0835 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Damascus, 17 Oct (SANA) -- Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and the armed forces and defense minister, has stressed that the October war of liberation not only radically changed the Arab nation's image formed by the 1968 setback and Zionist propaganda but accomplished much more.

In an interview with TISHRIN today, General Talas said this war restored to the Arab individual his confidence and faith in his nation's ability to confront invasion and aggression and to achieve victory. It also created a deep wedge within the enemy ranks.

General Talas then enumerated the many gains achieved by the October war and referred to President al-Asad's wise and courageous leadership, which has fortified our armed forces' positions enabling them to destroy the dens of aggression and the bastions of evil.

General Talas reiterated that our armed forces in Lebanon will remain there to defend Lebanon's territorial integrity and to pursue their holy pan-Arab task until the liberation of Lebanon from all its enemies.

On the so-called missile crisis, General Talas said this fabricated crisis seeks to justify escalating the aggression in furtherance of the U.S. imperialist conspiracies against Syria. He stressed that our missiles will remain there as long as Zionist agression continues.

On the strategic agreement between Israel and the United States, General Talas said that placing U.S. forces and arsenals in direct confrontation with us aims at consolidating the Israeli aggression and continuing Zionist occupation of our territories.

General Talas said: The United States must realize that our Arab people are determined to protect their principles, dignity and rights and that they are determined to achieve victory.

PREMIER CONFIRMS READINESS TO FIGHT WITH LIBYA

JN172020 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Speech by Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm at the opening session of the second conference of energy in Damascus on 17 October 1981 -- recorded]

[Excerpts] It is my pleasure and honor to represent his excellency the president of the republic, Hafiz al-Asad, [applause] at the opening of your conference, the second conference of energy in Syria. I hereby convey the president's greetings to participating scientists and technicians and his hopes that this general rise in energy spheres marks the beginning of distinguished Syrian and Arab efforts.

When one discusses energy, one is also discussing politics. Even if for a moment we put aside the purely technical and economic matters that are important to this conference, we can not forget the fact that the current battle between our Arab nation on the one side and Zionism and U.S. imperialism on the other is a battle over the sources of energy in the Arab land and the freedom to invest these sources. It is a struggle over the free will of existence and living.

Revolutionary Syria has shouldered and is still shouldering the greatest part of the burden of confronting the plotting against the Arab liberation movement.

Former and present U.S. leaders recently held a conference in Cairo to discuss the rescue of Camp David. This Camp David, which was born in Washington and consolidated in occupied Jerusalem, is now dying under the blows of the Arab people in Egypt. The Arab nation's masses from Arab Maghreb to the Arab Gulf are backing the Egyptian people in order to hammer the last nail in the coffin of the so-called Camp David.

Those who are trying to disavow events and address threats to fraternal Libya, let them know that the peoples of Egypt and Sudan are with Libya. Let them also know that Syria will fight with Libya and Libya will fight with Syria and that forces of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front are ready for the battle backed by the whole masses of the Arab nation. [applause]

The path of struggle is still full of burdens and is unpaved. Yet Syria, the people, the party and the [Progressive National] Front led by President al-Asad have decided that the path of continued confrontation is that of the Arab people and is the national and pan-Arab duty of every single Arab. [applause]

PARTY OFFICIAL RECONFIRMS SUPPORT FOR LIBYA

JN171658 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Damascus -- The general conference of the lawyers in Syria opened today under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad. The conference is being held under the slogan, the sovereignty of law serves the objectives of the masses -- unity, liberty and socialism.

Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, the representative of his excellency the president of the republic, delivered a speech in which he praised the lawyers' valiant confrontation of the agent reactionary plotting against the steadfastness of our country which attempted to weaken this country and, eventually, force it to surrender. He greeted the lawyers' contribution to the elimination of the plotting and the plotters, particularly their spearhead, the Muslim Brotherhood organization.

Comrade Mashariqah emphasized that the Zionist-imperialist plotting against our nation is getting stronger and stronger every day and is trying to control and tighten its grip on the Arab region in order to further entrench the occupation and, consequently, continue to loot the nation's wealth and resources. Comrade Mashariqah reconfirmed that Syria is determined to stand steadfastly in the face of all the conspiratorial schemes aimed against our nation and to end all colonialist plans. Comrade Mashariqah stressed that Syria will shoulder its pan-Arab responsibilities at the side of fraternal Libya, if the latter is subjected to any aggression, will preserve the unity of the people and the land of fraternal Lebanon, and will defend the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

RADIO COMMENTARY DENOUNCES U.S. TERRORISM

JN161610 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Washington's muscle-flexing inside Egyptian and Sudanese land and airspace, and in waters close to Arab shores, is cogent proof that the U.S. Administration has adopted terrorism and decided to continue provoking and challenging our Arab people in Egypt, Sudan and the Arab nation to the extent that the least that can be said is that it shows impulsiveness and scorn for the security and peace of the region and jeopardizes the peace and security of the whole world.

When U.S. imperialism insists on appointing itself protector of the traitor regimes in Cairo and Khartoum, it is interfering in internal Arab affairs and declaring, in a contemptible manner, that it is the enemy of the people's role in Egypt and Sudan in particular and the Arab nation in general. When Washington turns Egyptian and Sudanese territories into a base for aggression, terrorism and provocation against Libya and the Arab nation, it is striving to achieve its evil objective of Arabizing the conflict and encouraging traitor regimes to wage war from Egypt and Sudan, with Arab soldiers, against the Arab nation under the veil of confronting an alleged Soviet threat and on the pretext that the steadfast Arabs who reject Camp David and capitulations are the ones representing this alleged threat.

Thus, the U.S. Administration is dangerously and feverishly escalating its provocation so as to Arabize the conflict, turning it from a conflict between the Arabs and Zionism and imperialism to one among the Arabs alone. To achieve this, it is using traitor regimes allied with Tel Aviv which have accepted subservience to Washington's policy and plans.

When Washington pursues this dangerous line, it places the Arab region in danger of an uncontrollable explosion on the regional and international levels so as to impose its hegemony on the Arab homeland and guarantee Zionist ambitions on Arab territories. When Washington pursues this aggressive line, which is backed by reaction and racism, it is trying to turn the clock back because it is restoring the logic of brutal force in applying the policy of imposing tutelage and subservience, resurrecting the doctrine of a power vacuum and the policy of pacts. It also ignores the black fate met by hostile pacts, traitor regimes and aggressive forces at the hands of peoples, headed by the Arab, Vietnamese and Iranian peoples.

The behavior of the U.S. Administration, characterized by extreme imperialist arrogance, shows that this administration has not at all benefitted from all the U.S. defeats in the world and from all its defeats in our Arab region. It is telling the whole world that it is not concerned about world peace and does not respect international law or human rights. Brutal force and racism have blinded it from seeing the facts of the situation, upholding justice and responding to peoples' will and aspirations for freedom, justice, progress and a free respectable life.

U.S. imperialism, which has declared open war on the Arab nation by its strategic alliance with the Zionist enemy, is currently inflating the traitors in Cairo and Khartoum and massing its weapons, planes and fleets to carry out its warmongering and to start a fire on Arab territory so as to achieve its common objective with Zionism, namely forcing hegemony and surrender on the Arabs.

U.S. imperialism has failed to take into account the steadfast Arab forces and the power of the Arab masses from the Ocean to the Gulf. These masses are definitely capable, under any circumstances, of repulsing aggression, foiling plots and proving that Arab will alone prevails on Arab territory.

U.S. imperialism is also taking a reckless and risky course when it discounts the friends of the Arabs, headed by the USSR and the socialist bloc countries, and when it ignores the fact that Egypt, which imperialism wanted to turn into a U.S.-Zionist protectorate, executed the traitorous symbol of Camp David, thereby marking the beginning of the end of this conspiracy and U.S. presence on Egyptian territory.

We in Arab Syria not only denounce and condemn this escalation of U.S. aggression, but also reaffirm that we are primarily concerned with the contemptible U.S. threats and provocations against fraternal Libya. Though leader Al-Asad has already declared that we will fight in defense of the Libyan Arab people against any outside aggression, we are confident that the masses of the entire Arab nation will take up arms against the imperialist-Zionist enemy and all traitors and agents until the Camp David process collapses and Arab struggle achieves final victory.

The threats and provocations of imperialism and its agents do not scare us. As a matter of fact, it is we who, in accordance wtih the logic of peoples, are warning the aggressors and adventurers that they will reap only defeat on Arab territory. Only what is right prevails.

AL-ASAD INVITES FIDEL CASTRO TO VISIT SYRIA

NC181708 Paris AFP in English 1656 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Damascus, 18 Oct (AFP) -- Cuban leader Fidel Castro is to make an official visit to Syria, at a date to be fixed, a well-informed source here said today.

He was invited by President Hafiz al-Asad, the source said.

NEW SYRIAN-IRAQI FRONTIER POST ANNOUNCED

JN141755 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Oct 81

[Station announcer]

[Text] The Syrian-Iraqi border post in Abu ash-Shamat has been transferred to the new post at (At-Tanf) as of 1 October 1981. The new post will become operational effective 0000 hours 17 October 1981. Any entry through any other place than the new post will be regarded as illegal. Those who violate this will be prosecuted in accordance with valid laws.

AIR TRANSPORT PACT CONCLUDED WITH DPRK

JN151821 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 15 Oct 81

[Text] Damascus, 15 Oct (SUNA) -- Syria and the DPRK have concluded an agreement on on cooperation between them in the civil aviation and air transport field.

Maj Gen Ahmad 'Antar, director general of civil aviation, declared upon his return here today from Pyongyang that the agreement aims at promoting air transport between the two friendly countries and operating flights between Damascus and Pyongyang and other cities.

Major General 'Antar signed the agreement for Syria in the capital of the DPRK. It was signed for the Korean side by the director general of civil aviation.

JORDANIAN STUDENT GROUP ISSUES STATEMENT

JN120945 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 12 Oct 81

[Text] Damascus, 12 Oct (SANA) -- The National Federation of Jordanian Students has issued a statement drawing attention to the difficult circumstances it is experiencing, for example, in campaigns of suppression that have thus far led to the detention of scores of students in Jordanian universities and higher academies.

The newspaper AL-BA'TH reports that the statements says that these students were arrested following demonstrations staged in support of the Palestinian revolution and in opposition to U.S. policy and Israeli provocations against the Lebanese and Palestinian people.

The National Federation of Jordanian Students called on all democratic student forces and organizations in the Arab and international arenas to express solidarity with Jordanian students in order to secure the release of scores of students who have been thrown in jails and prevented from continuing their studies.

'VOICE OF ARAB EGYPT' ON ATTEMPT AT NUMAYRI

JN152136 Damascus Voice of Arab Egypt in Arabic 1945 GMT 15 Oct 81

[Text] A Sudanese organization known as the Salvation Organization has announced that one of its cells inside Egypt recently attempted to execute Ja'far Numayri.

MOSHE DAYAN DIES, BURIED WITH STATE HONORS

TA162108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] This evening Knesset Member Moshe Dayan died in Tel Hashomer Hospital's Sheba Medical Center. The doctor' attempts to save him did not succeed, after his condition worsened at noon and he suffered breathing difficulties and falling blood pressure. Knesset Member Dayan was 66 years old. He will be given a state funeral. Its date will be announced.

Funeral Arrangements

NC162349 Paris AFP in English 2340 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Jerusalem, 16 Oct (AFP) -- Moshe Dayan, the Israeli soldier-statesman who died here today, will be buried with national honors on the decision of Premier Menahem Begin, an informed source said here. Israeli media held up the death announcement for 2 hours, permitting hospital officials to inform members of the family of the former minister of defense and foreign affairs.

Israeli government members, strictly observing the Sabbath, were not expected to issue any reaction statement until Saturday night. But opposition leader Shimon Peres commented: "Israel has lost one of its great men -- a famed fighter and an original thinker. I have lost a friend whom I respected even after our ways parted."

Hurvitz Replaces Dayan

TA180730 Jerusalem POST in English 18 Oct 81 p 2

[Text] Yiva'el Hurvitz, No. 3 on the TELEM list, will take the Knesset seat which has fallen vacant with Moshe Dayan's death.

Hurvitz, who was Dayan's cousin, was the second Likud finance minister until he broke with that party to run on the Dayan-led TELEM list. The other TELEM MK is Mordekhay Ben-Porat.

Papers Eulogize Dayan

TA180852 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 18 Oct 81

Review of morning press editorials]

[Text] As the motto of its editorial, HA'ARETZ carries a poem written the day Moshe Dayan left the Begin government. This is how the poem goes:

Walking ahead of us, stooping low and suffering
Our strength was his strength
His illusions were our illusions
Our weaknesses were his frustration.
Now that he is gone from us, with his bagful of tricks
There is nobody to watch the steps of the Israeli nation
There is nobody to cry out in protest
There is nobody to bear good tidings.

In the editorial, HA'ARETZ writes that a man has passed away who, in many respects, confirmed expectations harbored by Zionists in the Diaspora which they hoped the Sabra generation would fulfill. Foreign leaders justly praise him, his comrades-at-arms mourn him, and all of us feel a deep loss. Moshe Dayan savored the sweet taste of applause as well as the bitter taste of harsh criticism. For 30 years, he was the center of public attention. Nobody can fill the vacuum he has left behind.

The Jerusalem POST says that in the death of Moshe Dayan Israel has lost more than a leader of men and folk hero. For many, he was himself an element of the nation's security, his life was spent in battles against the Arabs, but he was the architect of Israel's liberal occupation policies in the West Bank and Gaza. Twice he conquered Sinai, but twice he was ready to give it up. His attachment to the West Bank was profound, but unlike many who were ready to follow him, he never forgot the abiding requirement of coexistance with the Palestinian Arabs. His part in determining the direction of our times was too great for his death to absolve him of his failures and weakness. Together with his accomplishments they will be incorporated in the final ledger of a life that before death had long since become a legend.

DAVAR writes that even his peers who had known him since his childhood years in Deganya and Nahalal could hardly distinguish between Moshe Dayan the man and Moshe Dayan the symbol. For a long time, Dayan played a key role in formulating the most important spheres of Israel's existence and a no lesser role in national awareness. The paper adds that the Yom Kippur war crisis also revealed Dayan's sensitivity to the public's attitude toward him. It seems that the bitterness he felt in the last years of his life was a reaction to the fiasco of the war. Dayan was the rebellious son of the Labor Party. In 1977 he became the lost son. At a difficult time, after failure in elections, he left the party and joined its rivals. He had good personal reasons to do this and, in retrospect, he may have been justified from the national point of view. However, the rift created then could never be healed. Dayan will be buried today among those who remained loyal to the party he was born into and among his childhood friends, on the cemetery hill at Nahalal. Dayan's remarks about a dream he had about his death are quoted at the end of the editorial. Among other things, Dayan wrote: The path I am treading on is the path leading to the cemetery. He described how he would be buried somewhere on the hill overlooking the valley: I will quietly lay myself to sleep, to forget everything. Thus, a circle will be closed -- DAVAR writes.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that now that Moshe Dayan is gone, the Israeli scene will miss the image of a fighting sabra, an original politician and of a man with a particular charisma that was especially revealed in the peak of his military career. Dayan contributed a great deal toward shaping the IDF as a fighting force and was, to a large extent, the architect of peace with Egypt. Yet, even now that he is dead, it should be noted that just as he was endowed with great talents and qualities he was not lacking in flaws and failures. We have now been deprived of a man who will gain an honorable place in the history of the renascent state of Israel, a man who arouses controversial feelings among many people in Israel. From an historical perspective, as we get farther from the days when Dayan was involved in internal political disputes, the true balance of the man's accomplishments and failures will be drawn.

HATZOFE writes that as a native Israeli, Moshe Dayan symbolized the sabra in that he was rough on the one hand, and on the other, he knew how to raise himself to the level of a fearless and undaunted national leader with a well-organized theory. He carried Jewish pride within himself. The glorious and noble images of the Bible influenced his Jewish and political credo. Living with the Bible was not merely the name of a book he composed, but also an inseparable part of his life. He loved Eretz Yisra'el and wished it well. He did all this in a special way he set out to himself which was more than once put in question. However, even if he was a lone wolf, Dayan believed in his justness. He was a controversial man or, at least, that is the image people had of him. It is said that he was tough but yet possessed a sensitive soul. Upon his burial in Nahalal, the era of Moshe Dayan will come to an end, the era of a man who was the greatest military commander and politician the Israeli people have had in this generation of redemption and renascence. His memory and his contribution to the Israeli people and state will forever be gloriously etched in the annals of the Israeli nation. May his soul rest in peace.

Ghali To Funeral

TA171508 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali will come to Israel tomorrow to attend Moshe Dayan's funeral. This has been reported in Cairo by Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, after a meeting with President Husni Mubarak and senior officials in his government. 'Ali said that he and his colleagues feel great sorrow at the death of Dayan, who was an honest military man. He fought for this country as a soldier and after that he fought for peace, in the wake of As-Sadat's initiative, 'Ali said. He stressed that he was not eulogizing Dayan as a former enemy, because when peace came the Egyptians forgot the wars with Israel.

EGYPT'S GHALI INTERVIEWED ON PEACE PROCESS

TA181019 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali has said that Egypt will go ahead with the peace process according to the Camp David accords so long as there is no other option acceptable by all the relevant parties. Interviewed by the Beirut magazine MONDAY MORNING, Butrus Ghali said that the basic principles of Egypt's foreign policy would not change under Husni Mubarak's rule. However, he added, each leader has his own style.

Ghali shrugged off the decision made by the organization calling itself the Arab League -- as he phrased it -- to suspend Egypt from its membership in the wake of the peace treaty with Israel. Butrus Ghali said that Egypt would welcome any Arab country wishing to resume diplomatic relations but it would not be the one making the first move. Ghali said that Egypt was determined to proceed with the process of normalization with Israel and every Arab country had better realize this if it has any intentions of resuming its relations with Egypt.

Inter-Arab Relations

TA161950 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali interviewed in English by Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari in Cairo -- videotaped, date not given]

[Excerpt] [Ghali] We will have continuity in the foreign policy of Egypt. Maybe the style will change, but the basic principle will be the same.

[Ya'ari] Do you sense, here at the Foreign Ministry, that other countries, other governments, change their attitude to Egypt because the man is not here, is not around any more?

[Answer] I don't believe, I believe that you have a continuity; for example, we have indirect relations with many Arab countries. Since the visits of President as-Sadat to Jerusalem, the number of Egyptians working in the Arab world are greater, so practically, we have relations with the Arab world. This will not change.

[Question] Are you thinking of a new approach, a new attempt, trying to build those things, bridges, between Egypt and the other Arab moderate capitals? Would you advise the new president to try and get something going between Egypt and Saudi Arabia, between Egypt and Morocco?

[Answer] First of all, they have broken the diplomatic relations, so they have to do the first step, and not Egypt. They need Egypt more than Egypt needs them. Egypt and the Sudan represents 2/3 of the Arab world. Out of three Arabs you have one Egyptian and, if you add Egypt and the Sudan, you represent 60 percent of the Arab world. So the Arab world is isolated. It is not Egypt who is isolated, which is isolated.

[Question] So you are not going to take any initiative?

[Answer] Certainly not. Why? If they want to return, they are welcome.

[Question] Frankly speaking, were you disappointed with the statement given by our foreign minister, Mr Shamir, concerning the possibility of the no-possibility of gestures by Israel towards Egypt, probably some early withdrawal from some sector in the Sinai?

[Answer] I believe that those are details; that means, if you are withdrawing 2 weeks before the 26 April, this will not change the basics. What is important is to maintain the peace momentum, to maintain the dialogue. Some gestures are important for the Palestinians, yes, certainly more than for the Egyptians.

Promises Shamir To Continue

TA182027 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] In a meeting held today between Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister reaffirmed Egypt's and President Mubarak's commitment to the peace process with Israel. The meeting was held before Ghali returned home, after he had participated in Moshe Dayan's funeral.

Minister Shamir and Butrus Ghali also discussed Kamal Hasan 'Ali's visit in Israel next week for talks on accelerating implementation of normalization between Israel and Egypt.

MUBARAK SENDS MESSAGE TO LABOR PARTY LEADER

TA190813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 19 Oct 81

[Text] The Egyptian president has stated in a message to Israel's Labor Party chairman that Egypt would continue the peace process until peace reigns in the Middle East. Egypt's president thanked Shim'on Peres for the message of condolences he had sent after President as-Sadat's assassination.

A Labor Party delegation will depart for Egypt in about a week to express condolences to President as-Sadat's widow.

REAGAN REMARKS REPORTED, BEGIN REACTS

TA180629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] President Reagan has said that when he met with Menahem Begin, the prime minister told him that he would continue to oppose the AWACS deal but that he was not disturbed by it. Our correspondent notes that this explanation has already been used by the administration to convince those opposed to the deal to support it. Ronald Reagan again expressed his confidence that the Senate would approve the sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia. Reagan praised Saudi Arabia as one of the leaders of the Arab world and explained that the deal would promote the peace process. President Reagan also promised that his administration would not recur the mistakes made by the Carter administration regarding Iran and would not let the regime in Saudi Arabia collapse.

Begin 'Astonished'

TA180714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] The prime minister was highly astonished at President Reagan's remarks that during his visit to Washington Begin had told him that he would continue to oppose the AWACS deal but he was not disturbed by it. In a statement published this morning, the prime minister says: To remove any doubt or misunderstanding, it is my duty to state that throughout my visit to the United States I claimed and explained that the double deal with Saudi Arabia poses a terrible danger to Israel's security. It goes without saying that if this is the significance of the supply of offensive accessories to the F-15's and of the AWACS surveillance aircraft to Saudi Arabia, I was and still am very, very much disturbed by it. This was the prime minister's reaction to President Reagan's remarks.

JERUSALEM ARABIC: REAGAN ON FAHD'S MEDIATION

JN171220 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1130 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has said that Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz played an effective role in halting the fighting between Israel and the Palestinians in southern Lebanon.

In an interview with the U.S. paper Baltimore SUN today, President Reagan said that when the fighting between the two parties exacerbated, Philip Habib, the U.S. President's envoy to the Middle East, advised him to contact a Saudi personality who was at the time in the United States and whose name President Reagan refused to disclose.

President Reagan added that 12 hours after the return of the Saudi personality to his country, Prince Fahd initiated his efforts with the Syrians and the PLO to settle the crisis.

President Reagan said Philip Habib believes that it would not have been possible to have achieved a cease-fire at the time without the mediation of Prince Fahd.

SYRIA REPORTEDLY REJECTS FAHD PEACE PLAN

JN161201 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1130 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Syria today rejected the plan proposed by Saudi Crown Prince Fahd to solve the Middle East issue. Muhammad Haydar, a high-ranking official in the ruling Ba'th Party in Syria and former prime minister, asserted that the Saudi plan contravenes Syria's strategic policy.

In an interview published today in the leftist Lebanese newspaper AS-SAFIR, Haydar said that the Ba'th Party leadership has rejected Prince Fahd's plan after studying it.

U.S. ASKED TO DELAY DEPARTURE OF DELEGATION

TA160906 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Oct 81 p 1

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Text] Israel has asked the United States to delay sending a U.S. delegation on the establishment in Israel of a system of hospitalization for the U.S. Army, until after the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation between the two countries has been signed. Jerusalem thus sought to imply that it intends to deal with separate subjects only within the context of a comprehensive plan for strategic cooperation.

After Begin's visit, during which understanding was reached on the need for strategic cooperation, U.S. spokesmen said that the plan at this stage was to cooperate on the subject of a hospitalization system to be established in Israel. Israel, on the other hand, presented this subject only as one of several cooperation issues. In talks with representatives, the defense and foreign ministers have since then stressed several times that Israel is ready to enter strategic cooperation only on the basis of a comprehensive program.

It appears that the United States sought to hasten to send a delegation on hospitalization in order to establish a fait accompli on a matter currently of interest to it. It involves basing in Israel a hospitalization system, plus adding thousands of beds, so as to make it possible to hostpitalize sick and wounded U.S. soldiers in times of emergency. Despite the fact that Israeli economic elements are ready to begin discussing this subject, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has the final say in deciding that the United States should be asked to delay the departure of its delegation until after the signing in November of the memorandum of understanding. As Israel perceives it, it is to comprise a long series of further subjects of strategic cooperation.

MEMORANDUM ON STRATEGIC COOPERATION PREPARED

TA180748 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Oct 81 p 3

[Text] The Ministry of Defense has completed the preparation of a draft "memorandum of understanding" on the issue of strategic cooperation, to be submitted for discussion with a U.S. delegation. The paper will be signed by U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon.

A small Defense Ministry delegation will leave for the United States at the end of October for a discussion with its counterpart Pentagon team over the preparation of a memorandum of understanding.

Israel's goal is to achieve strategic cooperation in a broad and varied sense, while the United States has the goal of much more limited strategic cooperation.

Accordingly, Sharon has recently been trying to postpone the arrival of the U.S. delegation to Israel, which is to examine the hospitalization system in order to check on whether the U.S. Army will be able to use its help during an emergency. The minister of defense has also turned down such other ideas as joint training of U.S. and Israeli Air Force pilots before agreement is reached on the strategic cooperation and its scope.

Sharon is prepared to give up the strategic cooperation between the two countries if it is not construed in a broad sense to include the establishment of U.S. emergency stores in Israel for the use of the U.S. Army during an emergency and containing tanks, artillery, aircraft and other secret items of weaponry.

The minister of defense was due to go to the United States in November for discussion and the signing of a memorandum of understanding on the strategic cooperation issue of between the United States and Israel.

ARIDOR INTERVIEWED ON U.S. VISIT, AID REQUEST

TA161426 Tel Aviv Ma'ARIV in Hebrew 16 Oct 81 p 20

[Finance Minister Yoram Aridor interviewed by Dob Goldstein; time and place not given]

[Excerpt] Question: What were your specific requests of the United States?

Answer: The request was for increasing aid and improving its terms. The total request was approximately $3 billion, compared to $2 billion that we are receiving this year in grants and loans. I also asked to improve the division of the aid among grants and loans.

Question: You explained that almost the entire sum Israel receives as civilian economic aid it will have to give back every year to the United States to repay its debts.

Answer: Yes, indeed: Within the framework of the civilian economic aid we will receive some $800 million this year while the payments for principal and interest to the United States will amount to $700 million this year. In addition to this aid, this year we have also received about $1.5 billion as defense aid. I explained to my interlocutors that, in fact, we need almost the entire U.S. aid for defense needs because the debts we must pay back were also created by defense allocations and needs. The $3 billion that we are requesting for next year includes $2 billion as direct defense aid and $1 billion as economic aid.

I told the Americans that the cost of construction and redeployment in the Negev in the wake of the withdrawal from the Sinai according to the peace treaty signed with Egypt will total $1.8 billion over and above all the calculations made at the time. That is to say, just for this purpose we will be needing $5 billion instead of $3.2 billion calculated earlier. The sum of $3.2 billion was at the time also given, almost in its entirety, as a loan. I also stressed to the Americans the rise in our expenditures for oil purchases. We could have saved most of this expenditure -- approximately 75 percent -- had we not evacuated the oilfields in the Sinai according to the peace treaty before the Camp David accords were signed and afterwards. We are currently spending some $2 billion a year on oil. We could have saved about $1.5 billion had we not given back the oilfields. This also enhances the claim that Israel's main problem stems from its defense expenditures and the heavy economic price it has to pay for peace.

Question: Is there a real chance that the grant component will be increased relative to the loan component?

Answer: I still hope so although this is not yet entirely clear because we have a problem here: The U.S. Administration has already submitted to Congress the aid proposal for 1982 and the debate is now in its last stages. I was particularly busy justifying our aid request for 1983 and I emphasized that we had been discriminated against due to the fact that the administration had not changed the ratio between the grant and loan in defense aid in our favor. In the year beginning on 1 October 1981 and ending in 30 September 1982 the ratio is $500 million as a grant and $800 million as a loan. Israel finds it very difficult to undertake this ratio.

Question: When Israel demands large sums from the United States at a time when the United States itself is facing serious problems of unemployment and cuts in the civilian sector, do the Americans not demand that Israel cut government expenses, lower the level of private consumption and freeze living standards in Israel?

Answer: I did not receive any demands or even proposals to change our economic policy. An outstanding difference between my previous visit to the United States and my recent one was: I was asked the same questions then and now. However, in May, the questions carried a tone of skepticism or criticism whereas now the questions contained a tone of curiosity and interest. The phenomenon of curbing and lowering inflation without creating massive unemployment has no analogy in the economic reality of the Free World.

Question: Did the Americans not ask or wonder about the large discounts in the prices of color television sets and small cars on the eve of the election, given the economic situation in Israel?

Answer: They wondered, boy did they wonder; I was forced to dedicate a great deal of time and thought to undo the lies spread in Israel by Mr Peres and the television as if we had spent hundreds of millions of dollars in order to lower taxes on television sets and small cars prior to the elections. This had the Americans worried and I knew about it beforehand. Indeed, almost in every forum we met, at some stage of the debate one of my interlocutors would ask: Why did you spend hundreds of millions of dollars on color televisions sets and small cars?! The question was loaded with criticism. Since I was prepared to face it, I took with me all the required information, both written and oral, to dispel this lie. People in Israel thought this lie was becoming true since it was broadcast on television time and again. With the help of accurate tables I showed the Americans that the surplus in expenditures in foreign currency for television sets and small cars as a result of lower taxes amount to $40 million which constitutes about 0.33 percent of our annual imports (some $15 billion). I added that a large part of the purchases were merely early purchases and that otherwise there would have been no increase in our expenditures in foreign currency. When I said that monthly purchases over that period had increased by 2,400 small cars and 8,000 television sets, one of the Americans smiled and said: "Such amounts of cars and television sets are sold in the United States by one car agency and one electric appliance store."

The Americans had great understanding for my explanations that an expenditure of $40 million was justified within the effort to curb inflation by means of breaking the expectations of many citizens that it would go on spiralling. It emerged that the method we used to curb and lower inflation was compatible with the Americans.

Question: What else were your interlocutors interested in?

Answer: I explained to them that we are currently carrying out considerable cuts in government expenses.

Question: Is that so, are we really cutting? Within about 1 month you have to submit to the Cabinet a specified proposal to cut some 3 to 5 percent in the government's current budget. Have you formulated the proposals and have you reached any agreements with the ministers?

Answer: Yes, some of things are being carried out. There is a cut of some 10 percent in the pace of activities of the Defense Ministry in terms of local currency. Considerable cuts in the budgets of the Ministries of Construction, Health and Education have been concluded and formulated. These are the most important ministries. Various cuts have already been agreed upon with the pertinent ministers. The budget for 1982 will be based on a real drop in the scope of activities compared with 1981. It cannot be claimed that all the activities of any given ministry are totally necessary. It can certainly be said that a few percent can be saved without affecting any vital issue.

Question: And without a considerable rise in unemployment?

Answer: Certainly, without a rise. This will have no significant effect on the scope of unemployment. It is a fact that the freeze imposed on the signing of contracts by the ministeries -- which has been in effect for the last 3 months with the aim of pursuing the cuts now underway -- did not bring about a rise in unemployment. On the contrary, the rate of unemployment has even gone slightly down. There are no grounds to fear that the necessary cuts in the budget will increase unemployment. However, we will deal specifically with any place where unemployment reaches worrisome dimensions, without changing the overall budgetary policy.

Question: How will the cuts affect inflation?

Answer: You know that I do not tend to prophesy. It is impossible to determine today what will be the rate of inflation next year. It can be determined now that inflation in 1981 dropped compared to the same months in 1980. This fact greatly impressed the Americans. The problem in the free world is not how to lower the rate of inflation but how to do so without causing massive unemployment and without resorting to totalitarian emergency measures. In this repect, Israel has the same problem in its struggle against triple-digit inflation without increasing unemployment and without restoring to emergency measures.

ARENS INTEVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

TA171336 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Prof Moshe Arens interviewed by Arye Haskel and Tzvi Fantanovitz -- date and place not given; recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] One of Moshe Dayan's greatest achievements was the key role he played in the Camp David peace process. The prime mover on the Egyptian side was, of course, the late President as-Sadat. Now there is a new president in Egypt, Husni Mubarak, who has declared himself equally committed to peace with Israel. Nevertheless, Mubarak is no As-Sadat and the question remains in the wake of As-Sadat's death where do we go from here. This question was put to the chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Professor Moshe Arens, in this interview, conducted before Dayan's death.

[Begin recording] [Arens] Well, this is what we are all trying to guess. There must be about 4 million Israelis who are trying to find the answer to exactly that question. I don't think any of us have the answer. We do have the commitment that was made by Mubarak in his talks with Prime Minister Begin as well as in a speech before the Egyptian People's Assembly. By the same token, we knew that Mubarak will be under pressure, the very same kind of pressure that As-Sadat was under in his lifetime, to abandon the peace process with Israel. It is very likely that Mubarak, like As-Sadat before him, will try to counter that pressure by applying pressure on Israel.

[Question] In this connection, he has actually said that he and Egypt see the Palestine problem as cardinal and he has called on the United States to put pressure on Israel on this. How well do you think Israel is able to stand up to U.S. pressure?

[Answer] Well, I think that we have a pretty good record in that regard and we have shown that we can be quite stubborn when we think we ought to, when it is important for us. Some people would then call us intransigent but I don't think that you will find too many cases in Israel's history -- and certainly not in Israel's recent history -- where he have buckled under pressure or we have done things that we have considered to be inimical to Israel's best interest because outside powers or even some of our best friends -- like the United States -- have tried to pressure us into doing this. I don't think that there is too much a risk that pressure from the United States, mayte with the encouragement of Mubarak, will bring about compromises or concessions on Israel's part that ordinarily we would not have wanted to make.

[Question] In this connection, a problem has been underscored to suitable extent by Mubarak's minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, who has actually urged the European countries to pressure the United States to apply pressure on Israel. Again, does this tell us anything about the policies of the new administration in Egypt?

[Answer] Well, I think it confirms something that we really could have and should have known even before we had heard anything specific from Husni Mubarak and that is that Mubarak will be under pressure to bring about Egypt's reentry into the heart of the Arab world, to bring about Egypt's resumption of its traditional role as leader of the Arab world and that his reaction to this pressure is to put pressure on Israel to solve the Palestinian problem, in quotation marks, which, of course, is a euphemism for withdrawal to the 1949 armistice lines, including Jerusalem. I think that that part of the scene we could have predicted. It was part of the relationship with As-Sadat. This was his response to the pressure he was under from outside Egypt and inside Egypt and clearly this is going to be Mubarak's response.

Whether Mubarak will be able -- as did As-Sadat -- to withstand the pressure, to bend in the peace process with Israel -- well, that is something that we do not know for certain. We do know that Mubarak doesn't have the kind of stature in Egypt at the present time that As-Sadat had. In other words, it is going to be more difficult for him. As-Sadat, after all, was the hero of the Yom Kippur War, had achieved a position in Egyptian and world public opinion that was really quite unique and maybe Mubarak will attain that position as well but it certainly is going to take some time before he does -- if he ever does. In the meantime, I think it will be fair to say that it will be more difficult for him to withstand some of the pressure that As-Sadat was able to withstand.

[Question] Do you not think he could mark time for a while, just to feel his way about?

[Answer] Well, I think that it is only logical to assume that under any circumstances he is going to work very hard at trying to keep Israeli-Egyptian relationships on an even keel, at the very least, until that date because that is a date on which Israel is committed to withdraw from the Sinai. You may have noticed in Mubarak's speech to the Egyptian Parliament -- his (?noble) speech -- he spoke very dramatically, with a certain element of pathos, about the Egyptian flag being raised at Sharm ash-Shaykh and the Egyptian flag being raised at Rafah and every last square inch of holy Egyptian soil being returned to Egypt in April 1982. So, he has every good reason, of course, for making sure that things stay on an even keel, at least until that date. But, of course, this is not 100 percent certain that he will be successful in doing that because he will be under pressure. We can see that there are opposition groups in Egypt, that there are powers in Egypt and outside Egypt in the Arab world that will try to get him to deviate even before April 1982.

[Question] Do you think he can withstand these pressures?

[Answer] I don't think anybody knows, I don't think that Mubarak himself knows at the present time. As I said, I think he has every reason to make a very strong effort to withstand them, at the very least until April 1982, maybe beyond. But, whether he is able to -- I don't think there is a man in the world today that can tell you with certainty what the answer to that is.

[Question] So, if you were prime minister now, what would you advise?

[Answer] You know, of course, it is an entirely different situation after the fact than before, simply because Israel -- unlike with Arab countries -- is a democracy, is a country with a tradition of democratic institutions and with a tradition of abiding by its international commitments. What, even in Egypt, the tradition is almost the opposite, in the sense that An-Nasir broke international commitments that previous Egyptian rulers had taken upon themselves and As-Sadat broke international commitments that An-Nasir and, in some cases, he himself took upon himself, like the 15-year friendship treaty with the Soviet Union. Now, Israel is just the other way around; a country that prides itself on its tradition of abiding by international commitments regardless of whatever change of government we may have, as a result of elections.

[Announcer] Interviewing Prof Moshe Arens were Arye Haskel and Tzvi Pantanovitz.

MOI APPEALS FOR RESTRAINT OVER SUDAN, W. SAHARA

EA1716 40 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] President Moi, who is the chairman of the OAU, has sent messages to President Ja'far Numayri of the Sudan and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of Libya. The messages are in connection with border incidents between the two countries. In his message to President Numayri, President Moi reiterated his call for Sudan and Libya to exercise restraint in their relations.

The message to Al-Qadhdhafi said: It remains the chairman's fervent desire to prevail once again upon the Libyan leader to exercise extreme restraint in the conducting of relations between Libya and the Sudan. The OAU chairman said that war and conflict among brothers are totally unjustifiable and unacceptable. He said: It is in the interest of Africa that all necessary avenues for the resolution of this conflict must be explored fully under any cost. He once again appealed to them in the name and honor of mother Africa to save the continent from unnecessary loss of life and property. He emphasized that the need for economic development and social progress in Africa precludes any (?wastage) or diversion of the much need resources for development to the unproductive and destructive war between brothers and sisters.

Meanwhile President Moi today sent messages to three heads of state regarding the shooting of Morocco's C-130 and Mirage F-1 planes over the Western Sahara. The messages have been sent to King Hasan II of Morocco, President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria and President Mohamed Haydala of Mauritania.

President Moi said that the shooting of the planes causes considerable concern and alarm in the subregion. He underlined the solemn resolution over Western Sahara which was followed by recommendations of the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara. He has appealed to all countries in the area to respect the wisdom of the implementation committee on Western Sahara which made recommendations for peace in the subregion. Noting that a stage has been reached on the Western Sahara issue, President Moi appealed for individual and collective concern for a peaceful settlement of the problem through exercise of restraint and desisting from taking action that is likely to result in serious threat to peace in the subregion.

OAU DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ANGOLA 15 OCTOBER

AB161230 Paris AFP in French 1113 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Luanda, 16 Oct (AFP) -- A delegation of the OAU Liberation Committee arrived in Luanda yesterday for a working visit, the Angolan Daily JORNAL DE ANGOLA indicated. The delegation, led by Col Hashim Mbita, executive secretary of the organization, will devote itself to examining problems affecting the African Continent, the daily added without giving any other details.

LIBYA

DIPLOMAT CRITICIZES U.S. AID TO EGYPT, SUDAN

LD181646 Tripoli JANA in English 1431 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] London, 17 Oct (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY) -- The secretary of the People's Bureau for External Liaison, Mr 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi said the supply of U.S. arms to the Egyptian and Sudanese regime reveals a fundamental American ignorance of Arab politics and the nationalist motivations behind the Jamahiriyah's politics regarding the Palestinian and other Arab causes.

In an interview broadcase yesterday by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Mr al-'Ubaydi said this U.S. conduct is seen as an attempt to cut down American losses in the Arab region.

On the other hand, he said the execution of the traitor as-Sadat has liquidated a political trend that was hostile to the Arab nation and rid the nation of a ruler who proved to be unfaithful to Arab rights.

He said: "We rely on the Arab people and Arab conscience in confronting American policies...."

"We are confident in the abilities of our armed peoples who can withstand this aggressive American policy hostile to the Jamahiriyah and the entire Arab people."

SUDANESE FORCES AIRLIFTED TO INVADE CHAD

LD181836 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1816 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Oct (JANA) -- JANA has just received reports from Sudan that Sudanese Sa'iqah forces are being airlifted by helicopter and would probably attack Chad. It has also been learned that the Chadian Government has been informed of this information.

JANA COMMENT ON NUMAYRI THREAT AGAINST LIBYA

LD171910 Tripoli JANA in English 1735 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Oct (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY) -- Sudan's ruler Ja'far Numayri has repeated his threats of attacking Libya and carrying the battle into the Jamahiriyah.

He told the official Egyptian paper AL-AHRAM: "I will train crack troops for suicide missions in Libya.... I will send 500-600 people, and even if only two or three remain, I shall still consider this a success.... I shall carry out this action in Tripoli personally and soon. I can further confirm that the battle shall be moved from the Sudan into Libya itself...."

Our political editor made the following commentary on the statements:

"It is clear that the meaning of heroism has been degraded by as-Sadat. True heroism does not lie in declaring war on the Libyans who saved Numayri from certain death, but in the liberation of Palestine from its usurpers.

"We know the true Numayri more than anyone else.... We also know, together with the Sudanese people, Numayri's cowardice, weak personality and lack of legitimacy....

"Numayri's seemingly bold statements do not fool us. We know that he is a worn out man who lost patience not knowing when and how the final blow will be delivered....

"His statements to the paper AL-AHRAM can be seen as a form of psychological therapy for a man in deep depression and suffering from mental imbalance, after having become the laughing stock of the world....

"The Libyans will not give Numayri the chance to enter their lands. If he attempts such an incredulous act, he will find Tripoli, Jaghjoub, Kufrapor any part of Libya a living hell for all those who dare walk over these lands, as was the fate of all those who dared and died...."

MAURITANIA

DIPLOMATIC CORPS BRIEFED ON MOROCCAN CHARGES

AB151030 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 15 Oct 81

[Text] Mohamed Ould Sidi Ali, deputy minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, received in audience yesterday morning members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Nouakchott. During the audience Mohamed Ould Sidi Ali made the following statement:

Mauritania formally denies the accusations made against it by the Kingdom of Morocco. On no occasion has the territory of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania been used by the Polisario forces against anyone. Mauritania is ready to prove this by taking the diplomats to the place in question to verify for themselves on the spot the veracity of the allegations, Mohamed Ould Sidi Ali said.

Concerning the reference to the At-Ta'if accord, Mauritania points out that it has stopped its press campaign against Morocco. It has also taken a certain number of other measures to adhere to all the provisions of this accord. To this end, we note that we presented our conditions to the Moroccan side during the Mauritanian-Moroccan foreign ministers meeting in Paris on 28 July 1981, Mohamed Ould Sidi Ali said. But up to now the Moroccan side has not replied to these conditions, the deputy foreign minister stressed to the members of the diplomatic corps.

He then asked them to inform their respective governments of the sincere and clear position of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

MOROCCO

POLISARIO ATTACK IN SAHARA SAID CONTINUING

NC161609 Paris AFP in English 1551 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Rabat, 16 Oct (AFP) -- Heavy fighting is continuing at Guelta Zemmour, the Moroccan garrison town in Western Sahara attacked by Polisario Front guerrillas on Tuesday, a reliable source said here today.

It appeared that the Polisario, using sophisticated new weapons, could be engaging as many as 3,000 men in what was an extremely bloody battle, the source added.

The attackers' use of armoured track-laying troop transporters seemed to be turning the desert guerrilla war in the territory into a conventional armed conflict, the source said.

The Moroccan authorities meanwhile were saying nothing about the fighting, in contrast with Moroccan King Hassan II's swift protests to principle world leaders on Tuesday shortly after the attack began.

Polisario sources in Paris said that the front had occupied the town, which was being defended by 2,500 Moroccans, since yesterday. More than 2,000 Polisario guerrillas were involved in the fighting, the Paris sources said. Reports from the Mauritanian capital of Nouakchott also said casualties and fighting were heavy.

In Rabat, reliable sources said major Moroccan reinforcements were believed to have been sent in from Bou-cras, some 200 kms (120 miles) to the north of the strategic town.

Militarily, Guelta Zemmur constitutes a gateway to the central and southern regions of the Western Sahara. It is outside Morocco's defence line in the territory aimed at protecting El Ayun, Smara and the phosphate-producing center Bou-craa.

King Hassan II said on Tuesday that the attacks gave Morocco "complete freedom of action" and jeopardized peace efforts by the Organization of African Unity. These called for a cease-fire and referendum to decide the territory's future.

Morocco Claims Polisario Losses

NC181200 Paris AFP in English 1148 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Rabat, 18 Oct (AFP) -- Moroccan forces have inflicted heavy losses on Polisario guerrillas in the battle for Guelta Zemmour in the Western Sahara, where Moroccan troops had gained the upper hand, a reliable source said here today.

It was not immediately known if fighting was continuing today at the Moroccan garrison town, which was surprise-attacked by Polisario on Tuesday [13 October].

A well-informed diplomatic source in Rabat said that Guelta Zemmour had not been captured by the Polisario, but that the guerrillas had succeeded in obtaining control of a certain number of positions during the first phase of the battle.

The pro-government LE MATIN DE SAHARA newspaper today said that the Moroccan Air Force had succeeded in destroying launching ramps from which Polisario had been firing anti-aircraft SAM-6 missiles. Moroccan reinforcements of motorized infantry that arrived at the scene on Thursday had encircled Polisario positions, which were under fire from the Moroccan artillery and air force, the newspaper said. Thousands of Polisario "mercenaries" had been killed or wounded in the fighting and their supplies wiped out, the paper said.

The newspaper said that a few Polisario guerrillas had tried to flee to Mauritania while Moroccan commandos were starting clean-up operations. A number of foreign military experts in Morocco said the Polisario, whatever the aim of its attack, was unable to hold Guelta Zemmour, even with reinforcements.

After having deployed the major part of their forces in attempts to dislodge the Moroccans from the garrison, the guerrillas no longer had sufficient reserve forces to consolidate and maintain their positions, the experts said.

Moroccan forces were also thought to have suffered heavy losses, but the consequences of the battle were considered more serious for Polisario, whose effectiveness had declined greatly during the past two years, the experts said.

OPPOSITION SUPPORTS GOVERNMENT ON W. SAHARA

NC170652 Paris AFP in English 0635 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Rabat, 17 Oct (AFP) -- The Moroccan opposition Socialist Union of Popular Forces (USFP) called on the government Friday to create the "necessary conditions for total mobilisation" to respond to the Saharan nationalist guerrilla attack on the Western Sahara town of Guelta Zemmour.

The party's political Bureau "strongly" condemned the Polisario attack on the town near the Mauritanian border earlier this week, praised the resistance of Moroccan troops and said the attack had "clear foreign links" which could only aggravate the conflict in Western Sahara.

It said party members were ready to "bear all sacrifices necessary" to defend Moroccan sovereignty.

Three top leaders of the USFP, including First Secretary Abderrahim Bouabid, were jailed for a year last month for criticising government policy by warning that King Hassan II's acceptance of international demands for a self-determination referendum in Moroccan-occupied Western Sahara could endanger Moroccan sovereignty.

The pro-Moroccan Saharan group Aosario accused Algeria Friday of organising a "hidden war" in Western Sahara aimed at obstructing plans for a referendum there.

In an interview with the Rabat daily newspaper L'OPINION, Aosario Secretary General Ould Rashid charged that Polisario's sophisticated weaponry was being operated by Algerian troops or by East German or Cuban technicians. Libya was also actively helping the guerrillas, he said.

MINISTER BOUCETTA RETURNS FROM UN 18 OCT

LD181446 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation M'hamed Boucetta returned this morning to Morocco after attending the recent UN General Assembly session and paying an official visit to Canada's return for an earlier visit to Morocco by Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau.

SUDAN

'AUTHORITIATIVE SOURCE' ON SECURITY MEASURES

JN171517 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Oct (SUNA) -- An authoritiative source has told SUNA that the security measures which are being taken internally and on the border with Chad are mainly aimed at safeguarding Sudan's independence and the safety of its citizens. The course added that the measures, which have already been taken and which will be taken, are for self-defense. The source asserted that the weapons which Sudan will obtain from the United States and other sources are defensive weapons which Sudan requested a long time ago. The Sudanese will receive training in the United States and other countries on the use of these weapons.

The source said that Sudan endeavors to establish peace in the area, that it has never been an aggressor and it does not intend to attack Libya or others. The source said: If Libya wishes to live in peace with its neighbors, it must cease its attacks and withdraw its armies and war materiel from Chad and must respect international conventions and the OAU resolutions.

The source asserted that Sudan does not seek to attack anyone, adding that Sudan calls for spreading mutual understanding and respect among all the states in the area. We, the source added, will take every measure to protect our country's security, stability and independence and we will take all the necessary defensive measures to attain this.

CRACKDOWN ON VAGABONDS, INFILTRATORS CONTINUES

JN171838 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Oct (SUNA) -- The Sudanese regular forces carried out an intensive campaign in the township of (Umm Baddah), west of Omdurman, within the context of a large-scale plan to rid the capital of aliens and vagabonds. During the campaign, which was begun early Friday and continued until late in the afternoon, 1,366 vagabonds and infiltrators were arrested. Also, the forces discovered large quantities of foodstuffs and building materials in some houses and seized pistols, ammunitions and large quantities of vehicle spare parts.

NUMAYRI ON INTERNATIONAL FOOD DAYS, LIBYA

JN181128 Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Oct (SUNA) -- In an address on the occasion of the International Food Day, President Numayri warned that the shape of the existing cooperation between the rich and poor countries leads only to the aggravation of food crisis.

Numayri said that the aids extended by rich countries, which are offered to fulfill some consumption, could not support the efforts exerted by the Third World states in the field of food production.

The rate of consumption in the developing countries is rising owing to the increase of population, while production potentialities retreat before the high prices of fuel.

President Numayri showed that Sundan's production of food is an urgent necessity because Sudan is almost the sole exporter of food to most of the neighboring countries.

Numayri said that our fate imposed on us to share food with others as we share water with them.

President of the Republic Ja'far Numayri confirmed that he will lead himself a new revolution against work laxity recklessness, negligence, and nonresponsibility, a revolution that confirms that there is no superiority over the nation's security and interests, a revolution aiming at revealing traitors and conspirators, a revolution which I lead by myself to be with the masses, a fortress of safety, so that the past conspiracies may not be repeated, the president said.

The president continued: A revolution I lead at the front position to offer my life and blood in sacrifice to the unity of my country and the security of my people and the sacredness of my soil, a revolution I lead by myself so that the slogans of freedom may not be a venue to destroy us and that pretences of liberalism not be a passage to erase our gains and so as not to make tricks on law a means for aggression on law, the president said.

The current staggering in the North-South dialogue reflects the enormous gap between the rich and poor countries. But this gap cannot be bridged except through a conscious apprehension on the part of the rich countries of their responsibilities in promoting the potentials and resources of the poor countries.

The president elaborated on the far-reaching significance of food as a weapon and a guarantee of real independence. He spoke of the need for the Arab nation to invest and develop its food resources and in this context Sudan finds itself obliged to act as a guaranteed satiator of the Arab nation's food needs.

President Numayri said that the hostility of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi need no further proof. We have seen his 1976 aggression here in Khartoum and today we are witnessing his aid of an aggression on our western borders.

The thousands of Sundanese who refused to plot with him are now either prisoners in place in Libya or fugitives in airports. For this reason, those who smuggle anything to Libya or Chad will face no charge less than high treason, the president said.

The president concluded by stressing that Sudan's path will lead to the realisation of its hopes of becoming the world food basket that will halt the horror of creeping hunger.

Remarks to Cabinet

JN181943 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 18 Oct (SUNA) -- The Cabinet today held a special session under President Numayri. The president devoted this session to reviewing the highlights of the historic message which he addressed to the Sudanese ration during the ceremony held yesterday on the occasion of International Food Day.

The president emphasized the concepts outlined in the speech, saying they must be implemented without hesitation or delay. The president said he considers today's Cabinet session as a starting point in carrying out the points he made in the speech.

President Numayri reminded the Cabinet that the May revolution was essentially a revolution before it became a conventional regime. The May revolution, he added, has come to achieve prosperity, stability and justice for all the Sudanese people.

The president also reminded the Cabinet members of their responsibilities as political, executive and administrative leaders. He told them they enjoy the full authority of the president of the republic to deal with all manifestations of aimlessness, indifference and corruption in their ministries and to cleanse their ministries of corruption. He stressed that the ministers must not ignore any decision or law which will help push Sudan forward, correct any crookedness or deviation and remove any obstacles however great.

President Numayri reviewed the critical period through which the homeland is passing. He said that those coveting Sudan are standing on the border plotting against the security and unity of the homeland and the safety of its citizens and are using all means of conventional and psychological warfare. They have recruited hireling newspapers and radios to undermine the Sudanese people's gains, invent methods of economic sabotage and fabricate rebellion through the (?greedy) who are not interested in the citizens' independence.

SUNA REPORTS ON LIBYAN OPERATIONS IN CHAD

JN181845 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Junaynah, Sudan, 18 Oct (SUNA) -- Chad -- The Libyan occupation forces have been conducting, since the end of last week, intensive killing, oppression and arrest operations among the Chadian peoples, accusing them of belonging to the forces of the north led by Hissein Habre. Eyewitnesses said the Libyan troops have painted last week all the walls in Abche town in green, and distributed green clothes to the Chadian children in a primitive attempt to convince the Chadian people of the essence of Al-Qadhdhafi's Green Book. The witnesses declared that other opponents of this act were either persecuted by the Libyan forces or fled towards Sudan. They added that the Libyan-backed forces of Asol Ahmed have driven the forces of the minister of interior of the existing regime in Chad out of (Amingo) town, after a fierce fighting in which many people from both sides fell dead or injured.

SENEGAL'S DIOUF HOLDS TALKS WITH NUMAYRI

JN171528 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Oct (SUNA) -- President Numayri and Senegalese President Abdou Diouf have stressed the need for security, stability and peace on the African continent and have agreed that the withdrawal of the Libyan forces from Chadian territory is of the utmost importance in order to restore security and stability to Chad. The two presidents called for the speed up of the formation of the African peace-keeping force in Chad to replace the Libyan forces. The Senegalese president affirmed that Sudan is ready to contribute a military contingent to this African force and said that the OAU has been informed of this decision. Senegal, he added, is awaiting the consent of other states to take part in this force.

The Senegalese president stopped over this morning in Khartoum airport on his way to Kuwait for an official visit. He was received at the airport by President Numayri who held talks with him on various bilateral and African issues, on which their views were similar.

UGANDAN DEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSES SECURITY

JN161526 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Oct (SUNA) -- Maj Gen Qasamallah Rasas, chairman of the Higher Executive Council for the Southern Region, met here today with Paulo Muwanga, Ugandan vice president and defense minister, who is now visiting Khartoum.

They discussed security issues and cooperation between the two countries and agreed that it is necessary to ensure security and peace on the border between the two countries.

Official Departs Satisfied

JN181444 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Oct (SUNA) -- Paulo Muwanga, Ugandan vice president and defense minister, left Khartoum for home at 0930 today after a 2-day visit to Sudan during which he held talks on issues of joint interest.

In a predeparture statement, Muwanga asserted that his talks in Sudan were successful. He expressed his satisfaction with the affairs of the Ugandan students attending the Sudanese military college.

WESTERN SAHARA

COMMUNIQUES ISSUED ON POLISARIO FIGHTING

'Liberation of Guelta Zemmour

LD162010 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] In a communique released today by the SDAR Information Ministry, the Polisario Front announces that town of Guelta Zemmour was liberated by the combatants of the Saharan Popular Liberation Army on 13 October. The communique, which stresses that the Moroccan aggressors suffered heavy losses in life and equipment, says that the liberation of the Saharan town from foreign occupation cannot but constitute a natural element in a struggle for self-determination and national liberation.

The communique adds that the Polisario Front announces publicly that the liberation of the Saharan town, situated in the territories of the internationally recognized SDAR, is not considered as surprising as the problem is essentially a problem of decolonization. The communique also points out that the Polisario Front reaffirms its firm commitment to the process of a political settlement as advocated by international organizations, and reiterates its appeal for the Moroccan aggressor regime to enter into negotiations to establish a final peace and to facilitate the (?entrenchment) of the process of self-determination by peaceful means.

The communique adds that the accusations made by the expansionist regime are a simple expression of its disarray, and are aimed at bringing the very new elements alluded to in their accusations into a decolonization problem. The accusations are also aimed at conditioning American public opinion before the king's visit to the United States.

The communique concludes by saying that the sons of the Saharan people, since the first day of the Moroccan military invasion of the Saharan territory, have met the foreign aggressor with growing resistance; they have liberated towns, and their national liberation struggle is being intensified in the clear-cut framework of a just and natural process which will continue until the Saharan people attain their inevitable objective -- the liberation of all parts of the national territory of the internationally recognized SDAR.

Four Other Targets Named

NC170938 Paris AFP in English 0927 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] Algiers, 17 Oct (AFP) -- Guerrillas of the Polisario Front attacked Moroccan troops in several parts of the disputed Western Sahara simultaneously with Tuesday's reportedly successful assault on the major garrison at Guelta Zemmur, according to a statement issued here by the self-proclaimed Saharan Republic (SADR).

The SADR statement named the four other Polisario targets as Sabti, Mzeriga and Rus El Ouj, in the northern part of the former Spanish colony, and Bir Enzaran, further south.

Each of the garrisons was subjected to heavy fire for between 25 and 45 minutes, the statement said.

Fighting To Continue

LD170728 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 17 Oct 81

[Text] The Saharan minister of information has affirmed that fighting between the Saharan Popular Liberation Army and the Moroccan forces is continuing and will continue as long as King Hassan II refuses to start negotiations with the Saharan Government and the Polisario Front to reach a peace agreement. The Saharan minister said that the Moroccan radio broadcasts regarding the historic operations in Guelta Zemmour reveal the king's intention to justify his policy of raising all possible obstacles to prevent the start of negotiations with [word indistinct] and the arrangement of the referendum on self-determination.

We note that the Saharan official made this statement in the capital of Mali, where he delivered a message from the secretary general of the Polisario Front to the president of Mali.

Moroccan Regiment 'Annihilated'

LD182002 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] A communique issued by the Saharan Information Ministry said today that the victory of the Saharan liberation army in Guelta Zemmour is a double victory, since not only a Moroccan regiment numbering 2,600 men equipped with the most modern military arsenal was completely annihilated, but the basic aim was also achieved, namely the destruction of the (?defense) wall. The communique explains that the electronic (?watch points) around the important triangle were actually hit by the Saharan Army. The communique points out that there have been no further clashes nor even an exchange of fire in Guelta Zemmour since 14 October, as the military objective of dismantling and destroying the Moroccan defense system, which was set up last year with the help of foreign experts, was achieved on 13 October. The communique adds that the political aim has also been achieved, exposing Morocco's rejection of any move to establish real peace as evidenced by Morocco's appeals for American intervention and its complaints of distress and difficulties. The communique says that the total Moroccan losses will be published later.